REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION

OF THE

UNITED PROVINCES OF AGRA AND OUDH,

1914-1915. To 1920-21

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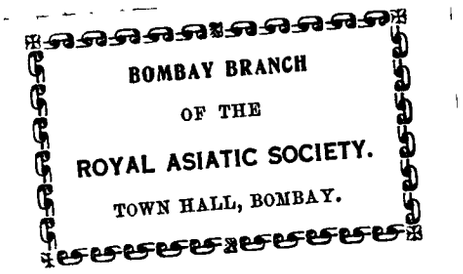

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REPORT

ON THE

Administration of the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh,

1914-15.

PART I.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

Changes in the administration.

1. The Honourable Sir James Scorgie Meston, K.C.S.I., was Lieutenant-Governor of the provinces throughout the year.

Political.

2. Each of the three native states within the boundaries of the United Provinces contributed towards the prosecution of the war. A detachment of Imperial Service Infantry from Rampur and a company of Imperial Service Sappers from Tehri left for active service, and a number of cavalry horses were supplied by Rampur and Benares. In addition the rulers of the three states subscribed to the various war funds. His Highness the Maharaja of Benares has provided and equipped an Ambulance crops, which is ready for active service ; and His Highness the Nawab of Rampur is assisting to maintain a hospital ship.

Condition of the people.

An officer of the United Provinces civil service was lent by Government to act as President of the Council of Regency of Tehri state.

3. The monsoon of 1913 was decidedly deficient throughout the provinces, though the eastern divisions suffered little in comparison with the rest. The result was an almost general failure of the food crops. The commercial crops, especially cotton, did not fare so badly, but this could not compensate for the dearth of food grains and of fodder. In consequence prices at once began to rise. The continuance of the drought into the cold season prevented much of the normal rabi area from being sown, and prospects were further impaired by frost and absence of rain in January followed by hail in February and March. The 1914 spring crop thus turned out poor in yield as well as reduced in area. The failure of the crops caused widespread distress, Its intensity, however, varied greatly in different parts. Famine was declared in Bundelkhand, and scarcity in the Rohilkhand division and in parts of the Agra and Allahabad divisions. Various measures of relief were adopted by Government, including, besides schemes for direct relief of the usual famine type, remissions and suspensions of land revenue, enormous advances of *taqavi*, and an organized Government supply of fodder on an unprecedently large scale. The lack of fodder indeed was the most salient feature of the famine and occasioned heavy losses among the cattle. Really acute distress, however, was rare and nowhere did conditions approach in severity those of the famine of 1907-8. The relative improvement in 1914 was doubtless due to the increased stamina and material reserves derived from the intervening period of prosperity. The advent of the 1914 monsoon brought a recovery to more normal conditions. The rainfall was fortunately abundant. An extensive area had been sown, and up till the second week of September prospects were exceedingly favourable. But a prolonged break then occurred, accompanied by hot west winds; October was unusually dry, and the ultimate yield of the kharif crop was little better than indifferent. The

increased area under food grains, however, made the total produce from these crops somewhat larger than the recent average. The ensuing rabi crop resulted in a very similar disappointment. The moisture in the soil was in general sufficient for sowings, and though delayed till the end of January the rainfall was then ample. By the middle of February there was promise of a bumper harvest, but the unfortunate persistence of dull and cloudy weather with constant showers throughout February and early March proved the ruin of these hopes and reduced the outturn of the crop to one of merely moderate dimensions. Prices remained high throughout the famine period. They eased somewhat when the 1914-15 crops came on the market, but in both cases the drop was only temporary, and on the whole the rates at the end of June 1915 were very little lower than twelve months previously; the prices of wheat and common rice in fact were actually higher. The outbreak of war had an immediate effect in curtailing exports. The price of cotton, which had been extraordinarily high, fell abruptly, and the same was the case with hemp and oilseeds. The commercial crops are largely relied upon to meet the rent, and their unexpected decline in value proved a heavy loss to the cultivator, which the enhanced selling prices of his food grains, much of which must be retained for home consumption, could hardly make good. The cotton growing districts of the west suffered particularly in this respect. A demand for labour existed even during the famine time and it continued ample throughout the year. Wages showed no decline from the high level to which they had risen in the previous year. The famine caused a diminution in the total volume of trade; exports of food grains naturally fell, while imports showed a corresponding increase. Trade continued to decline during the succeeding year, though imports remained at the same high figure. The decrease was solely in the export trade, which was largely influenced by the war and the restrictions on the despatch of grain. Public health was good throughout the whole period under review. The death rate showed improvement and both cholera and plague were less severe. The mortality from cattle disease in 1914-15 also suffered a decline.

Land revenue.

4. The total revenue demand from all sources under the control of the Board of Revenue for the year ending 30th September 1914 was 911 lakhs. This represents an increase of no less than 57 lakhs on the total for the previous year. The bulk of the difference, however, consisted of the increased amount of *taqavi* due for repayment following the liberal advances made on account of the famine. Owing to the adverse agricultural conditions 47 lakhs out of the total demand were remitted and 79 lakhs suspended; actual collections amounted to only 766 lakhs. The total demand on account of land revenue rose by 2½ lakhs to 651 lakhs, the increase being mainly the result of the re-settlements in the Allahabad division, and, excluding 46 lakhs remissions and 45 lakhs suspensions, practically the whole of this was realized. The effects of the drought were well illustrated in the figures for irrigation rates, the demand for which increased by over 11 lakhs to 100 lakhs. As was natural, the collection of land revenue and canal rates involved somewhat more difficulty than usual and the outstandings remained higher. For all demands, however, the total number of coercive processes issued again declined, and the continued decrease of the total under such unfavourable conditions affords striking testimony to the steadily improved conduct of collection work. Reference has already been made to the

enormous sum distributed in agricultural loans. The aggregate figure was 191½ lakhs as against 30 lakhs in 1912-13. Numerous masonry wells and irrigation tanks were taken in hand, and the purchase of seed and the purchase of cattle each absorbed 56 lakhs. The ravages of the fodder famine among the cattle were thus completely repaired. Borrowers were treated with leniency and overdue repayments pressed with the greatest moderation; a large sum was suspended, but even so arrears of collections of principal showed a considerable increase.

Settlements.

5. During the revenue year 1913-14 settlement operations were in progress in four districts and in the Bhabar. In the Etawah, Fatehpur, and Allahabad districts work was continued from the previous year, and in the Pilibhit district and the Bhabar operations were commenced during the year. The sanctioned re-settlement of the Kashipur pargana of the Naini Tal district, however, was not proceeded with. Revision of records was begun for the new Gorakhpur settlement, and fresh settlements were sanctioned for the Basti and Bulandshahr districts. The quinquennial revisions of assessments in Bundelkhand had to be postponed on account of the famine. The extension of operations caused a further increase in the annual settlement charges.

Land records.

6. The new qanungo training school was opened during the year 1913-14, and candidates for supervisor qanungoship no longer attend the agricultural college at Cawnpore. The course also has been shortened and limited to the direct requirements of qanungos. Additions were made to the patwari staff of one district, and schemes for the revision of circles were sanctioned for two districts and for the Tarai. The rise in the proportion of certificated patwaris continued, and attention was devoted to the problem of improving the training in patwari schools. Famine duties interfered with the regular testing of records and in some districts were also responsible for delay in the compilation of the annual papers. No serious disorganization, however, was experienced. Map correction and revision of records were carried out in the Basti and Gorakhpur districts preparatory to settlement, and the experimental trial was commenced in the Ballia district of a scheme for fixing permanent boundary marks in alluvial tracts.

Court of Wards.

7. The Court of Wards continued to fulfil an important public service. During the year under report 17 new estates were taken under management and 16 estates were released, the number under superintendence at the end of the year being 202. Great care was exercised in scrutinizing proposals for management, and the assumption of charge of 13 estates was refused in spite of the fact that for several of them the applications had been filed by the proprietors themselves. The aggregate rent roll of the estates under management remained practically unaltered at 117½ lakhs. Normal items of income yielded rather more than in the previous year, but the estates like all properties suffered from the prevailing adversity, and in spite of suspensions and remissions the percentage of the current demand actually collected showed a decline. Nevertheless considerable sums were spent on improvements, investments, and the reduction of debt, and over 3¼ lakhs were advanced in loans to the tenantry. A gratifying feature of the year's record was the enhanced energy displayed in the construction of wells and other schemes for protection against drought. Cattle-breeding operations received a good deal of attention from the management and were appreciated by the tenants, while the educational, sanitary, and medical requirements of the latter

were as usual well looked after. Co-operative credit societies in Court of Wards estates, as elsewhere, were severely tested by the famine, but on the whole they passed through the ordeal satisfactorily. The Court of Wards continued the policy of aiding societies operating in estate villages provided that the latter give certain guarantees. Many district officers paid a tribute to the valuable assistance derived from advisory committees, particularly in regard to matters of ceremonial expenditure.

Rent litigation.

8. The recent decrease in litigation under the Agra Tenancy Act was hardly maintained in the year 1913-14. The small actual fall of somewhat more than 1 per cent. in the total number of cases was clearly the result of scarcity. In Oudh new institutions showed a large increase, but this was more than accounted for by the extraordinary rise in the number of suits for the resumption of a certain class of rent-free grants, due to the lapse of the statutory period of limitation at the end of the year 1913. Suits for arrears of rent showed a slight increase, though ejectments on this ground were actually fewer. Ejectments on other grounds decreased considerably owing to the adverse conditions prevailing, and the same reason accounted for a marked diminution of the number of suits for enhancement of rent and a large rise in the number of holdings surrendered. The area protected by occupancy rights continued to grow. The increase in the balance of cases pending at the close of the year is satisfactorily explained in Agra by the pre-occupation of many officers with famine work, and in Oudh by the abnormal file of resumption suits. If this last type of suit be excepted, there was a slight but welcome reduction in the number of appeals; the balance of undecided cases in appellate courts, however, again increased. A satisfactory decrease was recorded in the number of applications for partitions and in the number remaining undisposed of at the end of the year.

Police.

9. The distress following the crop failures and, in the latter part of the year, the disturbing influence of the war in Europe were responsible for a very large rise in the total volume of crime in 1914. The prevalence of dacoity was the most striking feature, but burglary and theft also exhibited heavy increases and there was a marked growth of serious crime against the person, especially of murder. Minor offences against property, as might have been expected, were exceedingly numerous. The percentage of cases in which investigation was refused showed a further decrease, and though much remains to be done in this direction the progress already achieved since 1909 has been substantial. The percentage of convictions obtained in cases investigated by the police, however, again diminished. The fact that a larger proportion of the total number of cases were investigated in the year under report may have had some effect on the figures for 1914, but the decline has been continuous during the last five years and cannot be explained by temporary changes. Doubtless the statistics have suffered from the greater insistence by the courts and the Bar on legal principles and technicalities, and from weakness of the prosecuting staff, but the basis of the trouble is economic. The extraordinary rise in prices during the last ten years has greatly lowered the real remuneration of the police. Both officers and men feel the pinch, and it is bound to sap their energy and efficiency. Nowhere does this tell more than with the investigating staff. The unrecognized expenses of investigations are heavy, and an increased measure of keenness and thoroughness in their conduct can hardly be

expected so long as it involves a pecuniary loss disproportionate to the attractions of success. The revision of the scale of pay of the police is one of the most clamant needs of the province; unfortunately the cost of substituting reasonable salaries is beyond the present financial capacity of the Local Government. The same cause explains the consistent increase in the annual total of resignations from the force and the great difficulty at present experienced in obtaining suitable recruits as well for officers as for the rank and file. Good progress was made with operations under the Criminal Tribes Act, both in registering members of tribes to whom the Act has been applied, and in teaching the inhabitants of settlements to adopt an honest means of livelihood. The industries started in the settlements are numerous and diverse; their financial prospects engaged attention during the year and there is reason to hope that most of them will be largely self-supporting. One of the most valuable features of the Act is the power given to proclaim as a criminal tribe any gang of professional criminals. Hitherto sufficient advantage has not been taken of this side of the Act, but a beginning was made with several notorious gangs during 1914. The registration of criminal tribes was found to have had a beneficial effect in curtailing the number of local burglaries. The war greatly increased the work of the criminal investigation department. The newspaper branch started a press bureau, the daily bulletins of which, published in three languages, did much to counteract the stupid and extravagant rumours to which the war at one time gave rise. A new special branch also was formed to deal with criminal tribes. The mounted police and the railway police were strengthened during the year and the chaukidar establishment in notified areas was converted into constabulary police. Road chaukidars are seldom of much service and the experiment is to be tried in one district of abolishing them altogether. Considering the character of the year the general conduct of the force was very creditable.

Criminal Justice.

10. The great increase in crime produced a corresponding increase in the number of criminal trials and in the number of punishments of every class. The rise in the number of accused persons was more than proportionate to that in the number of cases, a fact which is chiefly explained by the exceptional frequency of dacoity cases. The same reason accounts in a large degree for the marked increase of sentences of transportation relative to other punishments. The variations in Agra were in general reflected in Oudh, except that offences affecting life showed a slight decrease in the latter province.

Prisons.

11. The prison population was naturally affected by the excess in criminality already referred to, the daily average number of prisoners being 24,911 as against 21,818 in 1913. The general discipline in the jails, however, was good. Escapes and cases of assault and mutiny declined, and instances where corporal punishment was required were fewer than ever before. The conduct of the jail staff was also highly satisfactory. The general health of prisoners remained excellent. Despite the unfavourable character of the year there was a very gratifying diminution in the number of convictions of juvenile prisoners, and it would seem that the reforms recently instituted by Government with regard to the custody and trial of juvenile offenders have already begun to bear fruit. The work of the juvenile jail at Bareilly as usual merited the highest praise. Jail industries continued to make good progress, and the net profit in 1914 was the highest on record.

The large increase in the total expenditure was the result of having to maintain a heavily swollen population at a time when food grains were extraordinarily dear.

Civil Justice.

12. On the whole the number of civil suits instituted was very slightly in excess of that in 1913, but in value there was a considerable decline. The number disposed of also increased and the balance awaiting decision had been slightly reduced by the close of the year. In Kumaun and in Oudh, apart from the Judicial Commissioner's Court, appeals showed a small decrease, but elsewhere appellate work continued to increase, accompanied in the case of the High Court and the Judicial Commissioner's Court by a rise in the pending file. Applications for the execution of decrees increased in Oudh and Kumaun, but in Agra were somewhat less numerous than before; the number disposed of showed similar variations, and the net result was everywhere an increase in the balance pending at the end of the year. Village and honorary munsifs decided rather more cases than in the previous year.

Registration.

13. The hardness of the times led to a considerable increase in the number of registered mortgages and obligations for the payment of money. Leases also exhibited a marked increase, and the rise in the total number of documents registered amounted to 9 per cent. Both receipts and expenditure under the head of registration showed an increase which was the natural consequence of the extra work involved.

Municipalities.

14. With the near approach of the new Municipal Bill the keynote of municipal politics during the year 1914-15 was one of suspense, though by no means of suspended animation. The development of municipal administration and the extension of its public services continued with unabated steadiness, but the constitution of the boards themselves and their executive organization were left practically unchanged; accordingly no increase was made during the year in the number of non-official chairmen. The new Bill, which was submitted to the Government of India in December 1914, and was passed by the legislative council in March 1916, will, it is hoped, render possible a substantial advance in local self-government, a step which can only be successful if accompanied by an adequate appreciation of the increased responsibilities imposed thereby on municipal boards and their chairmen; in particular a most essential condition will be the growth of a fuller sense of financial responsibility, the realization of which at present experience has shown to be imperfect. As regards systems of municipal taxation, matters were also in a state of transition. The question of the substitution of terminal taxation for octroi in large cities was under consideration, and a schedule for the former was drawn up, which, it is believed, is capable of general application without excessive modifications on account of local conditions. It has been forwarded for approval to the Government of India. Pending the settlement of this vexed question little was done during the year to alter the basis of municipal taxation. The introduction of direct taxation into Indian municipalities is a problem that teems with difficulties, and its accomplishment must inevitably be slow. The receipts from taxes other than octroi showed a slight increase, but the yield from the latter tax suffered severely from the universal disorganization of trade during the first few months of the war, and the net receipts from octroi fell from 36 to 29½ lakhs. Fortunately there were indications of a recovery by the close of the year. The decline in

octroi receipts was naturally reflected in the total municipal income, which decreased from 99·98 to 88·71 lakhs. The other items chiefly responsible for the decrease were the reduced amounts received from Government in special grants and in loans, a result which was mainly due to the financial stringency of war time. The income from special grants from the Imperial and Local Governments amounted to 14·93 lakhs, out of which one lakh from the imperial non-recurring grant of 15 lakhs for the improvement of vernacular school accommodation together with a lakh from provincial funds was distributed between the Cawnpore, Benares, Lucknow, and Allahabad boards, and over 9 lakhs were assigned to various schemes for water and drainage works, including 1½ lakhs for the Lucknow experimental sullage farm. These allotments were independent of those made by the provincial Sanitary Board from funds placed at their disposal. Of the 4·72 lakhs advanced by Government in loans, Dehra took over 1½ lakhs for its electric lighting scheme and Benares, Lucknow, and Bahraich ½ lakh each for water-works and drainage projects. The continuous expansion of municipal expenditure was maintained by a rise from 90·54 to 95·7 lakhs. Of this total the capital outlay on water and drainage works accounted for 14 lakhs, or slightly more than in 1913-14, while electric lighting schemes also entailed heavy capital expenditure, the total sum spent under the head of lighting showing an increase of nearly 3 lakhs. The great development of municipal sanitary works is obvious from the Sanitary Engineer's returns for the year. The value of the work under construction supervised by him amounted to 20 lakhs; 18 lakhs of fresh works were sanctioned and projects involving 34½ lakhs more were presented for sanction, while in addition proposals were under preparation of an aggregate value of well nigh a crore. The year saw the formation of a company for carrying out electric installations at the capital towns of Lucknow and Allahabad, and there is now every prospect of the successful consummation of this much mooted scheme at a comparatively early date. Another substantial increase was noticeable in the expenditure on education, and the boards again received liberal assistance from Government in the shape of special grants. With a few exceptions public health in urban areas remained excellent throughout the year. The birth rate rose, while the death rate declined. Unfortunately the decline did not extend to infantile mortality, the figures for which, always large, once more exhibited a tendency to rise. In view of this it is exceedingly unfortunate that the system of training midwives is receiving so little popular support; without it all efforts must prove ineffectual. The vaccination returns showed an improvement on those of the previous year. The anti-malaria measures already in progress were continued and sanction was received during the year for the execution of an additional scheme on similar lines at Meerut, the estimated cost of which amounts to over a lakh.

District boards.

15. District board administration in 1914-15 was chiefly marked by the re-organization necessitated by the revision of the financial contracts between the boards and the Local Government. The machinery required for working on the new and more elaborate scale could not at once be called into being, and it will therefore be some time before the effects of the changes are fully manifest. For the same reason the aggregate unspent balance at the credit of the boards has enormously increased. In 1913-14

the opening balance was barely 27 lakhs; by the commencement of the year under review it had risen to nearly 63½ lakhs, and at the end of March 1915 the balance exceeded 77 lakhs. The benefit of the new settlement actually began to accrue in 1913-14, and the only change in the year under review was that the whole of the receipts from local rates were credited to the boards, whereas in the previous year a special grant of 32 lakhs had been substituted for the transfer of the portion hitherto deducted for expenditure on rural police. This change, however, added little to the total income. Excluding the opening balance, the aggregate income under all heads fell by over 6 lakhs to 119·44 lakhs, the decrease being mainly attributable to Government's large non-recurring grants in the preceding year and to a diminution of nearly 2½ lakhs in the receipts from cattle pounds; a considerable decline under the latter head was only to be expected as a corollary to the passing of the fodder famine. The expenditure rose from 86·91 to 104·16 lakhs. About 13½ lakhs of the increase was under civil works, while educational and medical services accounted between them for nearly 3 lakhs more. The execution of the civil works programme, however, has been retarded by the reversion or deputation of many officers of the public works department to military duty and by the inadequacy of the staff of overseers and sub-overseers so far employed by the boards, as well as by the great difficulty of obtaining satisfactory contractors. The inauguration of the reforms in primary education on the lines recommended by the Piggott Committee has proved a task of considerable difficulty, and progress has therefore been slow. The membership of district boards is being increased, which should facilitate the formation of the new primary school committees, and the increase in the number of training classes should gradually secure a better qualified staff. District board hospitals and dispensaries continued to be increasingly patronized. Good work was again achieved by travelling dispensaries and each board now has one under its control, half of the cost of maintenance being met from the board's own funds. Only two boards have seriously undertaken the training of midwives, but the general reluctance is hardly remarkable in view of the popular prejudice encountered against their employment. Private generosity in the matter of contributions for medical relief showed a falling-off. In some districts this has been put down to the new system, introduced during the year, of charging fees for medical treatment from those who can afford to pay; but the prevailing high prices and appeals for subscriptions to war funds probably had a good deal to do with it. The experiment of recovering a fee for quininisation was also tried, but as yet the people do not value its advantages sufficiently to pay for them. The expenditure on sanitation increased to 1·22 lakh, but no definite verdict can yet be given as to whether the experiments in village sanitation conducted through the agency of panchayats are likely to prove a success. Professional veterinary aid is increasingly sought, and the new contracts contained provision for a large expansion of district veterinary work. Unfortunately the war has hindered its accomplishment by withdrawing all the available qualified men for military service. The entire staff of district veterinary assistants is now to be provincialised and placed under the superintendent of the civil veterinary department, and this should result in a further considerable improvement in their work. An important administrative reform was the appointment of

full-time paid secretaries to the boards. This has already been carried out in 26 districts. The new primary school committees should provide a fresh opportunity for local work and a stimulus to members to take a responsible interest in the board's activities in their own neighbourhoods.

Agriculture.

16. Research work on the different crops was continued with the object of discovering improved varieties, and special types were tested for particular tracts. The improvement of sugar machinery also received attention. The extension of the better types of cotton was somewhat interfered with by the restricted sowings consequent on the heavy fall in the price of the raw produce, and straitened finances were responsible for the postponement of some of the schemes for opening farms and seed dépôts which had been entered into between the agricultural department on one side and district boards and co-operative credit societies on the other. As usual the distribution of selected varieties of seed occupied a very large portion of the time of the department, and it is undoubtedly a service highly appreciated by the public. Unfortunately the department's farms are not large enough to ensure an adequate supply, nor can the staff really spare the time at present devoted to this work. The establishment during the year of private seed distributing dépôts by several of the larger landholders in Oudh was therefore a very welcome move, which if extended should in time afford the department the necessary relief. Power pumping continued to excite interest, but the rather heavy capital outlay required is somewhat of an obstacle to its development, and during the year under review progress was further hindered by the difficulty of obtaining machinery from England owing to the war. Demonstrations of power pumping and of more scientific methods of agriculture were given at the department's farms as well as at agricultural exhibitions. The latter continued to be popular. The department is well in touch with co-operative credit societies and, except in the west, where the societies' funds were seriously affected by the drop in cotton prices, fair progress was made in developing joint enterprises notwithstanding the generally unfavourable character of the year. Apart from the submontane districts a keen demand persisted for the services of well-borers, and the number of wells bored increased. A very satisfactory feature was the successful introduction of tube wells. Sheep breeding experiments were continued with promising results, and more elaborate arrangements were made for the sale of agricultural implements. Other events of agricultural significance during the year were the taking of the quinquennial cattle census, the organization of the provinces into three agricultural circles, and the re-construction of the courses at the agricultural college at Cawnpore.

Civil veterinary department.

17. The civil veterinary department continued to do valuable work and every year's returns testify to its growing popularity among the village population. The chief feature of 1914-15 was the opening of a headquarters laboratory at Lucknow together with a research station for the accommodation of animals under scientific observation; a large variety of experiments and enquiries were already in progress by the close of the year. The figures for preventive inoculation record an encouraging advance, and the method seems to have acted as an effectual check to widespread epidemics. The reported mortality from contagious disease showed a considerable decrease. The increase of about 25 per cent. in the number of veterinary hospitals and dispensaries naturally

produced an increase in the number of patients treated. A travelling veterinary dispensary has been started as an experiment. Much attention was again devoted to the supply of stud animals for the breeding of cattle, horses, ponies, and mules, and the provision of adequate bull power appears to be giving a much needed stimulus to the cattle-breeding industry of the provinces. Indeed in view of the great rise in the prices of both horses and cattle the development of breeding operations is becoming a matter of some urgency. Efforts were made to interest cultivators in the health and breeding of cattle by distributing bulletins and by lantern lectures at agricultural exhibitions. Something has been done to strengthen the supervising staff of the department, but the adequate reinforcement of both the superior and inferior establishments will inevitably be delayed by the war

Co-operative credit societies.

18. Owing to the bad harvests of 1913-14 co-operative societies began the year under review with an unusually large balance of loans outstanding, which amounted in all to 47 lakhs. It was hoped that the bulk of this would be repaid during the year, but the disappointing outturn of both the autumn and spring crops, coupled with the slump in cotton and oilseeds following the outbreak of war prevented any great reduction of the debt. Fresh advances during the year totalled 27 lakhs and repayments 29 lakhs, so that at the end of the year the outstanding balance was still as much as 45 lakhs, of which an unusually large amount was overdue. Nevertheless there are good grounds for believing that nearly the whole of this sum will ultimately be realized. The declaration of war produced a temporary run on the deposits of co-operative banks, and though the latter were able to meet their liabilities they were unable at the same time to fulfil their function as the source of agricultural loans to their members. To tide the banks over this unprecedented situation Government made them a temporary advance of about 2½ lakhs. This undoubtedly saved many of the members from a return to the money lender. The crisis did not last long, and the banks were actually able to refund the whole of the advance to Government within the year. Indeed the uneasiness which took so firm a hold on the depositors of joint-stock banks and post office savings banks affected co-operative banks in only a minor degree, and by the end of the year deposits in the latter had even increased. In view of the financial difficulties narrated above it is not surprising that the year was not one of expansion. But it is satisfactory that some little extension took place, and that the consolidation and strengthening of the existing societies, which was the chief feature of 1913-14, was continued energetically. The financial position both of central and of primary societies improved greatly during the year notwithstanding the unfavourable circumstances. Both the paid-up share capital and the reserve funds were materially augmented, and their joint total formed a considerably increased proportion of the total working capital. The small rise in the latter, from 114·2 to 117·5 lakhs, was mostly due to the retention of large cash balances to meet possible withdrawals, and but for this fact the profits earned would probably have been higher. All central sōcieties, however, worked at a profit. The central societies made further headway with the policy of curtailing their dealings with individual members and confining themselves to local societies. In both urban and rural primary credit institutions there was a very satisfactory

increase in the percentage of the total capital belonging to members themselves. The conditions obtaining made it impossible for primary agricultural societies to grant the usual liberal advances to their members, and the sum lent fell from 40·8 to 27·4 lakhs. Nevertheless an increased profit was returned. On the other hand the unlimited liability primary credit societies, which compose the large bulk of the non-agricultural societies, had an unfortunate year; they are mostly concerned with trades, many of which were adversely affected by the war. Among non-credit institutions the chief feature of the year was the creation of four cattle insurance societies. These are largely experimental and Government has promised to give them special aid should this prove necessary. The success attending similar societies in Burma affords ground for anticipating good results in these provinces, where the field for this form of enterprise is large. The relations between co-operative societies and agriculture are yearly growing closer, and the services of the societies as pioneers of agricultural improvements of every description merit an increasingly favourable acknowledgement. Their good moral and social influences are likewise ever more manifest. Members are growing more thrifty and are gradually learning to deposit their savings, and at the same time moral abuses in individuals are coming to be recognized as antagonistic to combined success. The process of liquidating a society under the present law is unduly protracted, and the difficulty of enforcing decrees in cases of liquidation has an evil influence on weak societies. The question of amending the rules of procedure, however, is under the consideration of Government.

19. The depressed state of the timber market was responsible for a heavy fall of 7 lakhs, or about 19 per cent., in the revenue realized from forests, and the decrease from 19¼ to 16·4 million cubic feet in the total outturn of timber and fuel was mainly attributable to the same cause. The resin industry in the Kumaun hills, however, recorded both an increased outturn and an increased profit. The new distillery plant and sawmill recently installed at the Bhowali distillery had a most promising first year of working and will result in a great improvement of both the output and the quality of the turpentine produced. The continued rise in the total expenditure was chiefly due to the increased cost of the sleeper-treating operations in the Kumaun forest circle. Difficulties with contractors and the insistence by the railway companies on stringent conditions with regard to quality have greatly diminished the number of fit sleepers that can be annually extracted. In consequence it will be quite impossible to fulfil the undertaking for 10,50,000 sleepers in four years as originally promised. The surplus of forest receipts over charges sank from 16·8 to 7 lakhs. A contract was given to a company for felling fir trees for match splints, but the enterprise had to be abandoned almost as soon as started owing to the cost of working proving prohibitive. The settlement of the old district forests, which now form the Kumaun circle, progressed satisfactorily and a commencement was made with the reservation of the portion that is being transferred to the forest department. The enlargement and reorganization of both the imperial and provincial forest services was sanctioned during the year by the Secretary of State, who also approved of the appointment of a chief conservator of forests for the provinces. Some necessary additions too were made to the subordinate forest staff.

Manufactures and trade.

20. The local cotton industry showed practically no expansion, but sugar manufacture on the other hand made a considerable advance. Special attention was directed to the tanning trade and two new tanneries were established during the year. The lac industry in the Mirzapur district recorded a large increase both in the number of factories and in the number of persons employed. Altogether the factory population of the provinces rose by about 6 per cent. to somewhat over ¾ lakh. Matches were manufactured by a company at Bareilly, but Japanese competition in price proved severe. For a time the factory remained closed, but it has since re-opened with better promise. A good deal of interest is being evinced in the possibility of a successful development of the local oil-pressing industry. The fluctuations of the external railborne trade of the provinces have already been alluded to in the description of the condition of the people. The very slight decline in imports was the result of decreases under a number of heads, of which the chief were metals, refined sugar, and cotton goods, set off by an increase under salt and a large increase under coal and coke for railway purposes. By far the greater portion of the heavy fall in exports was under grain and pulse, but noticeable decreases also occurred under raw cotton, hemp, oilseeds, and unrefined sugar. Within the provinces the extensive variations in the outturn of the crops in different localities caused a considerable expansion of internal traffic. The river-borne trade between these provinces and Calcutta, however, showed a very marked decline. The high prices prevailing in India gave rise to a large increase of imports from Tibet and Nepal; the exports, however, suffered little change.

Public works

21. The annual expenditure on buildings and roads increased from 113 to 136½ lakhs, 8 lakhs of the total being for famine relief and nearly 7 lakhs for imperial works. Under the latter head the chief events were the completion of the Forest Research Institute at Dehra Dun and the aerological observatory at Agra, and the commencement of work on the new bacteriological laboratory at Bareilly and on additions to the existing one at Muktesar; good progress also was made with the postal administration offices at Lucknow. As usual the public works department was occupied with a very large variety of provincial and local buildings. The most important of these was the new High Court at Allahabad, and among the remainder the more notable were the University Law library and the All-India Minto Memorial Pillar at Allahabad and the Commissioner's residence at Meerut. The construction of educational buildings alone absorbed over 3¼ lakhs. Some 71 miles were added to the total length of metalled roads, and considerable attention was devoted to bridging. Electric light and power schemes are becoming increasingly prominent, and a number of lighting and pumping projects were in course of preparation in addition to the installations in various public buildings that were undertaken during the year. The Mussooree hydro-electric scheme was extended to Dehra. The great development of sanitary works has been dealt with elsewhere. Increases were made in the number of charges of the public works department, necessitating some territorial re-arrangement, and certain additions to the engineer cadre were sanctioned by the Secretary of State. The revision of the subordinate establishment was also under consideration.

Canals and irrigation.

22. The capital expenditure on canals decreased from 29 to 27 lakhs. Of the total about half was spent on protective works in Bundelkhand and

the Mirzapur district, the chief being the Ghaggar canal in this district and the Gangao dam, the upper storage reservoir for the Ken canal. The main item in the capital outlay of 12 lakhs on major productive works was the construction of permanent head-works for the Ganges canal at Hardwar. Good progress also was made with the Gorai canal in the Mirzapur district. Of the new works under consideration by far the largest and most important was the Sarda-Kichha feeder project, which has taken the place of the Sarda-Ganges feeder project. The feeder would traverse the Tarai and give increased irrigation facilities in Rohilkhand. It is also proposed to take out a canal near the head of this feeder, which would run eastward and introduce irrigation into Oudh. The project has been submitted to the Government of India for sanction. Further extensions of the protective system in Bundelkhand are also contemplated, including additional reservoirs for the Dhasan, Ken, and Betwa canals. Some of these have already been surveyed. It is estimated that the extra storage so provided will enable the loss at present incurred on protective canals to be wiped out. A large number of embankment schemes were prepared in Bundelkhand as famine works to be undertaken when the next occasion may arise. Thanks to the increased area irrigated from productive canals, the general financial results were the best yet recorded. Both the gross receipts and the net revenue after deducting working expenses showed a considerable rise, and the aggregate profit from all canals after paying interest charges amounted to over 45½ lakhs. The net revenue was equivalent to a return of 7·07 per cent. on the total capital outlay to the end of the year on works in operation. Under the terms of the provincial contract in regard to irrigation revenues the Government of India guarantee to make up any deficiency below 55½ lakhs in the net revenue from major productive works. This contract was fixed in 1909 and the guarantee was exceeded for the first time in 1913-14. The year under review has repeated the achievement, the margin on this occasion being over 14 lakhs. The total area irrigated from canals showed some decrease, but it has not been exceeded before in any but a drought year, and a fall was to be expected. In consequence the total value of the crops irrigated declined slightly to 1,546½ lakhs; the average value per acre, however, rose from Rs. 46·1 to Rs. 47·33.

Excise.

23. The decline in the consumption of country liquor, which had its origin in the agricultural distress of 1913-14, was continued and emphasized by the economic disorganization produced by the war. In the year under review the drop amounted to as much as 294,000 gallons, or 18·2 per cent. The consumption of opium and *charas* also fell, and the result was a marked decrease from 131·61 to 124·28 lakhs in the total excise receipts for the year. This decrease was further entirely debitable to the head of duty. The licence fees alike for country spirit, tari and sendhi, and opium continued to increase and there was but a small diminution in those for hemp drugs; the total income from licence fees in fact rose by over half a lakh. The abnormal conditions of the year, however, did not deter the excise authorities from a steady prosecution of the declared policy of Government. The results of excise administration are chiefly to be gauged by a comparison of the figure for consumption with the incidence of still-head duty on each gallon issued to the vendors. During the year under review the average incidence

of still-head duty rose from Rs. 3-5-0 to Rs. 3-6-4 per gallon and the enhancements sanctioned are expected to raise the rate approximately to Rs. 4. At the same time the number of licensed retail shops has been largely reduced, and greater strictness is being observed in enforcing the restrictions on the hours of sale. The contract supply system continued to work well in the 22 districts in which it was in force, and as soon as financial conditions permit it will be extended to the entire province; its introduction into two additional districts from the 1st April 1915 was indeed arranged during the year under report. The simplification of system and the reduction of consumption by the steady increase of the rate of still-head duty are being pursued as rapidly as is compatible with the ability of the present administrative and preventive staffs to cope with the new changes and with any increased temptation to smuggling and illicit distillation. The small decrease in the licence fees for the sale of hemp drugs was more than accounted for by the losses resulting from the resignation of contracts owing to an enhancement of the duty on *baluchar ganja*. The rules in connection with these contracts are obviously faulty and their amendment is engaging Government's attention. The district drugs contracts expiring during the year were mostly resettled by blocks, and in only one case was the shop-to-shop system employed. The consumption of *ganja* continued to increase at the expense of that of *charas*, but both these drugs showed a satisfactory decline from the figures of 20 years ago, which is by no means counterbalanced by the increased consumption of *bhang*. The fact, however, that the income from duty is still less than half that from the licence fees indicates that the rates of duty on these drugs stand in need of revision. The rate of duty on opium was maintained unaltered, but certain increases in the district wholesale prices were sanctioned to take effect from the close of the year, which have as their ultimate goal the substitution of a level issue price for opium throughout India. Duty on spirits manufactured in India after the European method showed a large increase, which was chiefly due to the issue of rum for war purposes and to the check on the import of the German variety. Apart from this the war was responsible for a considerable reduction in the public consumption of foreign wines, beer, and spirits. Cases of illicit distillation were rather less frequent, but the large rise in prosecutions for opium and cocaine smuggling was remarkable, especially in the case of the latter drug, the principal source of supply of which had been shut off by the cessation of commercial dealings with Germany and Austria. It is believed that the increase was largely the result of more successful detective action, and it may therefore be regarded as satisfactory. Nevertheless it is abundantly clear that the preventive staff have by no means yet gained the upper hand in their continual contest with the smuggler. A conference was held at Delhi during the year to promote co-operation in the suppression of cocaine smuggling between the Punjab, the Delhi enclave, and these provinces. Benares continued to be the only district where the work of temperance societies was at all prominent. The decline in drunkenness in the year under review was probably ascribable to the high prices of food stuffs. Two other events of note were the decision to extend the system of local advisory committees to all municipalities, making them at the same time entirely non-official, and the passage of the United Provinces Excise

Amendment Bill, now Act I of 1915, which has given a clearer definition to some provisions of the existing law.

Stamps and income tax.

24. The effects of the war on trade led to a decrease of 1·8 lakh, or 6·9 per cent., in the receipts under the Stamp Act. The yield from court fees, however, continued to rise, though the increase would probably have been larger but for the war and dear prices. The total income under the head of Stamps thus declined by 1·35 lakh to 118·18 lakhs. The net collections of income tax fell by about a half a lakh to 26·22 lakhs. The decrease was due to a reduction of this amount in the final demand for the year. The latter was fixed at 21·71 lakhs, and was again realized practically in full. Payments were made rather more readily than in the previous year, but appeals and objections against assessments were more numerous; in proportion, however, they met with less success.

Provincial finance.

25. The decline of the provincial income by nearly 19 lakhs to 6,61 lakhs was in the main the result of the discontinuance of the appropriations from local rates on account of rural police charges. The improvement in the agricultural situation gave rise to increased receipts under the head of land revenue, while owing to the extraordinary distribution of *taqavi* during the famine period an unusually large sum accrued in interest. As already mentioned, there was also a notable increase in the irrigation revenue. On the other hand less was received in imperial assignments—because in the previous year the provincial share of land revenue had fallen a great deal below the minimum guaranteed by the Government of India—and both excise and forests gave a diminished yield. The total expenditure rose by 21 lakhs to 701 lakhs. The provincialization of the cost of the village police in Oudh accounted for the bulk of a large increase in police charges, while famine relief and departmental civil works also occasioned greatly enhanced expenditure. Smaller but appreciable increases occurred under land revenue, forests, courts of law, jails, and interest on ordinary debt. As a result of the special non-recurring grant made to district boards in the previous year pending the transfer to them of the portion of local rates hitherto appropriated for police charges, the expenditure on civil works in charge of civil officers in the year under review showed a large reduction, and the same circumstance was chiefly responsible for a decrease in Government's contributions for education. From a variety of causes medical charges also underwent a decrease. The actual receipts showed numerous variations from the budget estimates, but on the whole they fell only very slightly short of the total anticipated income. The large unforeseen increase from irrigation was balanced by the loss of turnover in the forest sleeper-treating operations due to delay in getting the scheme into working order. The actual expenditure on the other hand represented a saving of 31 lakhs, but this resulted mainly from the postponed disbursement of special grants for education and sanitation received from the Government of India. Excluding such earmarked assignments, the provincial closing balance amounted to 82 lakhs. Had the famine been the only cause of financial anxiety this might well have been regarded as a satisfactory achievement. The war, however, has profoundly altered the situation, and the prospects of its prolongation must necessitate the careful husbanding of resources and the suspension of all elaborate schemes of development for a considerable time to come.

Public health.

26. On the whole public health during the year 1914 was good. The birth rate per mille was 44·93 and the death rate 33·46, the former being above the average rate for the preceding quinquennium and the latter below it. Both births and deaths decreased in comparison with the previous year, but the excess of the former over the latter showed a slight decline. The infantile mortality rate rose to 233·5 per thousand births. Though still lower than the average for the period 1901-10 the rate is extremely high, and it is hoped that the great increase in travelling dispensaries and the continued efforts for the training of Indian midwives may gradually lead to an appreciable reduction; in the year under review the unusual virulence of measles accounted for the deaths of a large number of infants in addition to the ordinary causes. The mortality from cholera fell to a particularly low figure. The improvement may fairly be attributed in part to the systematic distribution of permanganate of potash to patwaris for the disinfection of village wells. This preventive scheme was introduced in four divisions during the year and has made an excellent beginning. Small-pox on the contrary claimed far more than its ordinary toll of victims. No explanation seems possible for the increased incidence of this disease, which as usual was most fatal among children from 1 to 10 years of age. The death rates for plague and fever declined and both were well below the quinquennial average. Inoculation against plague does not appear to be growing noticeably more popular. Several enquiries were conducted into the excessive prevalence of malaria in certain localities, and it has been verified that a great many deaths recorded under fever are in reality the result of phthisis, pneumonia, dysentery and diarrhoea. The number of deaths separately reported under these last four diseases in the year under review showed some increase. Prophylactic doses of quinine were administered to the police and to the jail staff and prisoners as well as to a large number of pupils and teachers in district board schools.

Medical relief.

27. The number of standing hospitals and dispensaries was slightly increased during the year 1914, but there was a more than corresponding rise in the total attendance. The figures indeed were highly satisfactory and afford a sure indication, if any were needed, of the manner in which the public now appreciate the benefits of skilled medical treatment. The increase was confined to male out-patients, the indoor attendance showing a small decline; surgical operations, however, were alike more numerous and more uniformly successful. The number of travelling dispensaries was raised from 74 to 87. As usual they were responsible for the majority of the inoculations against plague, and the steady increase in operations of all kinds performed by them was well maintained. Their excellent results and growing popularity are rendering them an ever more important constituent of district medical work. The introduction during the year under review of a system of charging fees from well-to-do patients was unquestionably a step in the right direction and under Government's avowed policy any opposition to it must be ignored. Some objections were naturally met with at first, but it is too early yet to ascertain whether the change will have an appreciable effect on the general hospital attendance. So far there is no indication of this; the system has been worked with great care and it has made a promising start. King George's Medical College at Lucknow closed the year with 108 students on its rolls as against 84 in 1913, but it

was unfortunate that no new lady students came forward qualified to go up for the University degree. The King Edward VII Sanatorium for consumptives at Bhowali achieved most encouraging results, and it is hoped that the anti-tuberculosis league started at Lucknow during the year will attain the success that the energy and devotion of its promoters so richly deserve. The war made a severe call on the cadres of the Indian Medical Service and the Indian subordinate medical department, and in consequence a number of districts had to be placed in medical charge of civil assistant surgeons.

Sanitation.

28. The great expansion in municipal sanitation has already been alluded to. Water works and drainage schemes have now become ordinary features of municipal administration. The existing water works continued on the whole to yield a very pure supply, and the strain experienced at large stations at the more critical seasons of the year is being relieved by providing them with a subsidiary supply from tube wells. Experiments with the latter have proved most encouraging; several such wells were put down during the year, and their further introduction is considered, both from a sanitary and from an engineering point of view, to be one of the most important works at present under execution in these provinces. Save for a few isolated cases of cholera the sanitary precautions taken at the annual fairs during the calendar year 1914 were completely successful. The amount at the disposal of the Sanitary Board in 1914 was 5·4 lakhs, of which 3·92 lakhs were assigned during the year. The Board also allotted the imperial grant of 8½ lakhs for urban sanitation. The proposals coming before the Board were both numerous and varied; administrative sanction was accorded to water works projects to the value of 6¼ lakhs, and to drainage and sewerage projects to the value of 5·65 lakhs, while in addition several schemes were approved for town-planning and the amelioration of crowded areas. The work in the Sanitary Engineer's office in recent years has multiplied enormously, and the addition of three gazetted officers to his establishment during the year under review was a relief that was urgently needed. The All-India Sanitary Conference was held at Lucknow in January 1914.

Vaccination.

29. The returns for vaccination showed a slight advance, the increase in the proportion of successful operations on children under one year of age to births being particularly satisfactory. Calf lymph vaccination was substituted for arm-to-arm vaccination in four more districts during the year, and the old method now only survives in seven districts. It has already been replaced in all municipalities and its complete abandonment should follow in the next few years. Improvements were carried out at the provincial lymph dépôt.

Education.

30. The year was chiefly remarkable for the publication of resolutions setting forth Government's future policy with regard to primary education formulated as a result of the report of the Piggott Committee which sat in 1913. The reorganization involved has proved more difficult than was anticipated; as yet therefore there is little progress to report, and it is still too early to form an idea of the actual effects of the changes decided upon. The war was not allowed in 1914-15 to interrupt the prosecution of schemes already started, and both the Imperial and Local Governments continued to make large special grants for education. About 1¾ lakh was received in this way for recurring expenditure, and 19¾ lakhs for non-recurring

expenditure, the Local Government's shares being Rs. 65,000 and 3·1 lakhs respectively. As already stated, however, the probably protracted duration of the war has made the continuation of such treatment impossible, and for the present many avenues of progress must be closed in the interests of economy. The aggregate expenditure on public instruction during the year rose from 128·30 to 141·56 lakhs. Both primary, and secondary public boys' schools recorded a small increase in the number of institutions and a corresponding increase in the total number of scholars. The number of pupils in primary schools who have passed the lower primary standard again increased slightly, but the proportion is still appallingly low. Aided schools have reached a grave state of inefficiency. The better ones have already been largely taken over by municipal and district boards, and under the new rules many of those remaining will be compelled to dissolve. Full provision, however, has been made in the new policy for genuine aided schools, and the reduction in the total number under this head, accompanied as it will be by an expansion of board schools, will actually herald an immense increase of real educational facilities. New training classes are being established every year and the proportion of trained teachers in primary schools is rising fast. Nevertheless the supply is still short of the demand, and it is a matter of regret that it will not be possible to proceed with the two new normal schools which are required to provide upper primary classes with an adequate staff of trained head teachers until the financial outlook is improved by the cessation of the war. The boards were unable during the year to spend more than a small part of the large grants sanctioned by Government for the construction of primary school buildings, but now that standard plans have been issued the defective accommodation should be remedied more rapidly. An interesting experiment in the half time system is being conducted by the Allahabad board. The system has never before received a full trial as regards its suitability for children destined to follow an agricultural career and it is possible that it may prove effective in overcoming the disinclination of the agriculturist to send his children to school. The point is one regarding which there is at present much difference of opinion, and the results of the experiment are therefore awaited with particular interest. Considerable activity was displayed during the year in the construction of buildings for secondary schools, and this applied to aided and unaided as well as to Government schools. The provision of hostels also was by no means neglected. Nevertheless the demand for accommodation grows unceasingly and the alleged failure of the supply to keep pace with it is the subject of constant criticism. To the impatient and enthusiastic the progress achieved in the last five years may seem disappointing, but absolutely and relatively it has been considerable; in any case it is difficult to see how it could have been made greater by anything that it lay within the power of Government to effect. Government has not undertaken and cannot undertake the whole burden of secondary education; its function is to set the standard and to assist private enterprise. This it has consistently and generously carried out. To make a more rapid rate of advance possible therefore a corresponding development of private effort is required. It is doubtless true that by a wholesale lowering of standards the rate of expansion might be somewhat accelerated, and this is the policy which Government is constantly urged to pursue. But there is always a

marginal point below which the standard of instruction cannot be allowed to fall without endangering all that education stands for. In primary education this has been too often overlooked and the result is a record of largely wasted effort and unprofitable expenditure. In secondary education in these provinces the standard has never descended to the same extent, but judged by any criteria it is still lamentably low. Something has been and is being attempted to improve it. A new scale of pay has recently been sanctioned to attract better men as teachers in Government high schools, a lakh of rupees has been set apart for engaging trained teachers for aided schools, and the training colleges at Lucknow and Allahabad have been enlarged. A third training college too has been planned at Agra, but the project must unfortunately be postponed owing to the war. Much, however, remains to be done, and whatever the need for expansion may be, it would be futile to attempt to secure it by adopting proposals that must inevitably destroy all that is valuable in the educational system. The condition of vernacular secondary school buildings is being steadily improved with the aid of the Government grants made to local boards in the last two years. School committees, alike for primary and secondary schools, were almost universally reported to take little interest and to perform no useful service; the same was true of district female education committees. Collegiate education exhibited much the same features as in preceding years. The number of students again rose considerably, and the pressure on the accommodation and still more upon the teaching staff was increasingly felt. Additions to the latter are urgently required, and something has already been done to meet the need; but the difficulty cannot be altogether overcome merely by enlargements; for there are limits to the expansion of a single institution, and an overgrown establishment ceases to possess the virtue of a college. It is clear in fact that a stage has been reached at which the whole basis and structure of collegiate education demand re-examination. Satisfactory progress continued to be made in the equipment of colleges with adequate hostels. By the appointment during the year of three professors, for post-Vedic studies, economics, and history, the University has made a further and important step forward in the direction of centralized teaching. Here again, however, the imperfections of the secondary school system constitute the stumbling block. There can be little scope for higher studies or research work whilst the attainments of students when entering on their University career remain what they are at present. The results of the annual University examinations in general disclosed a marked rise in the number of candidates and an equally marked decline in the percentage of successes. The number of girls attending school again showed a small increase. Unfortunately the progress which the figures for the year under review and the two preceding years seem to reveal is essentially illusory. The increase has actually been in the lower primary classes, and there has been no corresponding advance in the higher stages. Moreover the lack of real progress has not been due to any deficiency of funds or in the number of schools. The dearth of teachers is of course a serious difficulty, though there are hopeful indications of an increase in the number of women coming forward, and the numbers in the training classes in the year under review were much larger than before. But the scarcity of teachers is an effect rather than a cause. The real obstacle to progress is the

apathy of the people towards female education and the unwillingness of parents to allow their daughters to adopt the teaching profession. In these conditions a wide advance is obviously impossible, and the best results are likely to be obtained by the concentration of resources now dissipated to little purpose on the fostering of schools in the localities where something like a real demand is found. The various institutions for technical education in general recorded a satisfactory year's development, though the weaving schools are greatly handicapped by the obstinate adherence of the weaving class to inelastic trade customs. The sanctioned scheme for a Technological Institute at Cawnpore has had to be postponed owing to the difficulty of securing a suitable Principal under the present abnormal conditions. The year was marked by the appointment of a permanent Director of Industries and by the first meetings of the Board of Industries, on the advice of which Government will be largely dependent in matters of industrial education. In collegiate and secondary education the Muhammadan community made fair progress, but in primary schools their numbers remained nearly stationary. The measures for the promotion of elementary education amongst Muhammadans founded on the report of the Piggott Committee depend for their execution on the employment of a special inspecting staff, whose function it will be to stimulate, co-ordinate, and organize private effort. Sanction to the entertainment of this staff is at present awaited. In this connection the engagement of sufficient competent and reliable Muhammadan officials for service in subordinate posts has so far proved a problem of no small difficulty. The success of the Boy Scout movement inaugurated a year or two ago is worthy of notice, but apart from this there was little in regard to European and Anglo-Indian schools which called for comment. The war has taken its toll of the *personnel* of the education as of other services.

Literature and the press.

31. The total number of publications registered during 1914 showed a large excess over that for the previous year, the biggest increase being under the head of poetry. The increase in quantity, however, was not accompanied by an improvement in quality, and in the latter respect the year's output was altogether mediocre. Possibly this was due to the war. Certainly both political and religious pamphleteers were more moderate in tone. Very few works actually dealt with the war. The number of newspapers and periodicals also increased considerably. No prominent action was taken under the Press Act in these provinces and the general tone of the press was satisfactory. In non-controversial matters there was a semblance of unanimity, but the Muhammadan papers continued to urge their policy of separate communal representation. The press was practically solid in its support of the Empire in the war. Turkey's assumption of hostilities was regretted by both sections, and the Muhammadan papers were careful to point out that it was a political and not a religious struggle. They did not, however, altogether cease to evince distrust towards the Christian powers generally. The despatch of Indian troops to the front occasioned great satisfaction, and many conjectures were made as to its effect on the subsequent status of India and Indians. Pleas continued to be advanced for the employment of a greater proportion of Indians in the higher administration—as a step towards the consummation of self-government for India. The treatment of Indians in the colonies was likewise the subject of renewed

protest. Government's intentions with regard to sanitation were approved, but the educational policy was constantly under criticism.

Archaeology.

32. Under conservation the chief event was the commencement of the sanctioned improvements and special repairs to the Jami Masjid, Agra. Minor restoration work also was carried out in the historical buildings at Fatehpur Sikri and Sikandra. The extensive explorations conducted at Sarnath in the Benares district resulted in the discovery of a number of finely preserved Buddha images of the Gupta period.

PART II.

DEPARTMENTAL CHAPTERS.

CHAPTER I.—PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

1—Physical features, area, climate, and chief staples.

(*See pages* 1 *to* 6 *of the report for* 1911-12.)

2—Political.

(*For details see the annual reports on the administration of the Rampur, Tehri, and Benares states.*)

RAMPUR.

Revenue administration.

1. The financial position of the state was adversely affected by the failure of the 1913 monsoon. The state opened the year 1913-14 with a balance of 15·2 lakhs, but at the close the balance had fallen to 7 lakhs. This is accounted for by the decrease in collections from 49 lakhs, in the previous year to 41·3 lakhs in the year under report. The revenue demand was 49·9 lakhs, an increase of ·9 lakh. This with 3·5 lakhs outstanding arrears at the commencement of the year gave a total demand of 53·5 lakhs, of which a small portion was remitted, leaving a balance of 12 lakhs unrealized at the end of the year. The bulk of the balance was arrears of land revenue, which totalled 10·5 lakhs as against 2·5 lakhs in the previous year.

General.

2. Shortly after the outbreak of war a detachment of the Rampur Imperial Service Infantry consisting of 373 of all ranks left for service abroad under the British flag. His Highness the Nawab subscribed Rs. 10,000 to the Imperial Indian Relief Fund and Rs. 7,500 to His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales' Fund, and in conjunction with other ruling princes he is contributing towards the cost and upkeep of the hospital ship "Loyalty." In other ways too, notably in the provision and training of horses for remounts, His Highness the Nawab gave ready assistance to the Government of India in connection with the war.

In September, 1914 the state was visited by a heavy flood of the river Kosi. Much damage to property was done in the city and hundreds of houses collapsed, but fortunately there was no loss of life.

The construction of the Rampur Hotel was completed.

Agriculture.

3. The scanty rainfall of the 1913 monsoon followed by hot winds in September and early October both damaged the 1913 kharif crops and reduced the area suitable for rabi sowings. Lack of winter rains accentuated the drought and famine conditions resulted. The outturn of the rabi crop was only one half of the normal, and the total cultivated area for the year decreased to 370,321 acres as compared with 388,719 acres for the preceding year. In 1914 the monsoon rainfall was good, and the kharif crops were excellent except where they suffered from the river floods in September.

General condition of the people.

4. Owing to the famine there was considerable unemployment, and wages fell, while the price of food grains remained high. The distress was so great that in February the state started relief works employing 12,492 persons per day. These were kept open for four months at a total cost of Rs. 38,000, while about the same amount was advanced as loans to cultivators. The advent of the 1914 rains brought the necessary relief. On the whole there was an efflux of tenants from the state.

Excise.

5. In consequence of the famine the quantity of country liquor consumed decreased by one-third, and the demand under this head fell from 1·18 lakh of the year before to ·93 lakh. The consumption of charas fell by 40 per cent., but the demand under this head was doubled owing to an increase in the licence fee. The total current excise demand fell from 1·57 to 1·44 lakh. The balance unrealized, ·16 lakh, was unduly high on account of the famine. The steps taken to keep down the consumption of opium proved successful.

Police.

6. Most of the leading varieties of serious crime showed a satisfactory diminution, but cases of robbery and dacoity and of cattle theft were notable exceptions. The former rose in number from 11 to 17, and the latter from 25 to 46. The police were somewhat more successful in obtaining convictions.

Medical.

7. The general health of the people was unsatisfactory as an epidemic of cholera raged for the greater part of the year causing heavy mortality, and an outbreak of plague also occurred in the city lasting about two months. Births numbered 10,230, or 21·9 per mille, and deaths 16,043, or 28·7 per mille, the corresponding figures for the previous year being 14,619 and 10,567 respectively.

Education.

8. The number of schools remained 132 as before, but the number of students rose from 5,563 to 5,690. Five out of 10 candidates passed the university matriculation examination.

TEHRI.

9. At the request of Her Highness the Maharani Nepalia Sahiba, in consequence of her indifferent health, Mr. F. C. Chamier, I.C.S., was lent by the United Provinces Government to act as President of the Council of Regency that is administering the state during the minority of His Highness Raja Narendra Sah. The state supplied 100 Imperial Service Sappers for service in the war and also gave help by subscribing to the various war funds and in other ways. The gross receipts for the year 1914-15 amounted to Rs. 8,02,062 as against Rs. 8,31,877 in the previous year, and the closing balance was 14·2 lakhs as against 13·5 lakhs. The crops were good, but the prices of foodstuffs, and consequently wages, continued to rise slowly and steadily. Despite epidemics of cholera and small-pox the health of the people was on the whole satisfactory. The vaccination staff was increased and improvement was shown on last year's work. There were no cases of plague. The number of schools remained unaltered, but in the village schools the number of students and the daily attendance were considerably lower than in the preceding year. All candidates for the matriculation examination were successful.

BENARES STATE.

10. The total receipts of the state for 1913-14 were 18 lakhs, of which 2 lakhs were the income from His Highness' private property. The corresponding figure for the previous year was 16·44 lakhs. The expenditure was 22·99 lakhs, an increase of nearly a lakh over that for 1912-13. The chief items responsible for the increase were public buildings and irrigation works. A loan of 2·58 lakhs was obtained from the State Bank to finance the irrigation scheme. The balance at the commencement of the year was 3·55 lakhs and, taking into account the loan, the closing balance was thus 1·14 lakh. The monsoon rain of 1913 was heavy until September, when it failed altogether. A fair outturn, however, was obtained from both crops. Plague was again bad in the Bhadohi district, while the Chakia district, where plague was much less prevalent, suffered from local attacks of cholera and small-pox. Vaccinations showed a satisfactory increase from 20·7 to 32·5 per thousand of the population. Plague inoculations on the other hand fell in number and are still far from popular. The people, however, were generally willing to evacuate their houses. There was a marked increase of violent crime and of crimes against property. This is attributed partly to the presence of criminal tribes, to deal with whom the Criminal Tribes Act has been introduced in the state, and partly to the exceptionally high prices of foodstuffs which rose in the state as they did throughout northern India. The percentage of convictions to investigations fell appreciably. The number of vernacular schools was augmented from 65 to 66, and their registers totalled 5,466 pupils as against 5,062 in the previous year. Great indifference is still manifested towards female education.

The state contributed a number of cavalry horses to the Government of India for service in the war.

3—Historical summary.

4—Form of administration.

5—Character of land tenure, and system of survey and settlements.

6—Civil divisions of British territory.

7—Details of last census, tribes, and language.

(*For sections* 3 *to* 7 *see pages* 8 *to* 41 *of the report for the year 1911-12.*)

8—Changes in administration.

11. The Honourable Sir James Scorgie Meston, K.C.S.I., held charge of the provinces throughout the year

A new post of chief conservator of forests was sanctioned for the provinces.

9—Relations with tributary states and frontier affairs.

12. An agreement was effected with the Nepal Darbar relating to the boundary between the Pilibhit district and Nepal in the neighbourhood of the Sarda river whereby a series of straight links were substituted for the existing curved line. The latter did not admit of accurate and at the same time permanent demarcation owing to the vagaries of the river.

As in 1911, it was found that the local Tibetan authorities were imposing restrictions on trade that were contrary to the Tibet Regulations of 1908. Upon representation being made to higher Tibetan officials the latter ordered the restrictions to be removed.

10—Condition of the people.

(*For details see the annual report on the revenue administration by the Board of Revenue for the year ending* 30*th September*, 1914.)

General.

13. The character of the 1913 monsoon was responsible for the many unfavourable features of the year 1913-14. In May and the early part of June the rainfall was in excess, but during the usual monsoon period between July and October there was a decided deficiency everywhere. This is explained by the almost complete failure of the Arabian Sea current to penetrate into the provinces. The deficiency of rain, though general, was far less marked in the eastern divisions of Gorakhpur, Benares, and Fyzabad than in the southern, central, and western tracts. The worst sufferers were the Jhansi, Agra, and Rohilkhand divisions, in the order indicated. Owing to the early arrival of the monsoon the conditions were generally favourable for sowing and the kharif area sown did not fall more than 5 per cent. below the normal. The outturn of the crop, however, was greatly injured by the drought, particularly in Bundelkhand. Rice was a failure everywhere save in the eastern divisions and the food crops generally declined. The commercial crops on the contrary did well. The cotton crop, besides being of record area, had an excellent outturn, and this certainly saved the situation in parts of the Agra and Rohilkhand divisions where the drought was severe. The rabi season opened with a practically rainless October and November, and in consequence sowings were only possible over a greatly reduced area. The area sown was actually 82 per cent. of the normal, in contrast to the previous three years in all of which the normal had been exceeded. December had its usual rainfall, but the distribution was unequal. January, 1914 was not only rainless, but was marked by serious damage to arhar and gram in parts of the provinces from frost. Ample showers fell in February and March, but as they were accompanied by hail they did not on the whole improve the condition of the crops. The result was that the rabi crop, from which the greatest profits are expected over the major portion of the provinces, was poor in yield as well as curtailed in area.

This combined with the low outturn from the kharif crop gave rise to hardship throughout the provinces, though the degree of adversity varied greatly in different divisions. Famine was declared in Bundelkhand, and scarcity in the Rohilkhand division and in parts of the Agra and Allahabad divisions. The most striking feature was the unprecedented fodder failure which caused very heavy losses in cattle. Besides carrying out schemes for direct relief Government granted lavish advances under the Agricultural Loans Acts and sanctioned liberal remissions and suspensions of land revenue. The task of supplying hay and other fodder was also undertaken by Government to an extent unparalleled in these provinces. A full account of the various measures of relief adopted is given in the report on the administration for 1913-14. Despite the severe nature of the drought in certain tracts there was everywhere an almost entire absence of really acute distress. In the Allahabad and Bundelkhand divisions all reports agree that a demand for labour in the villages existed throughout the year, while in the Agra division the high prices and excellent outturn of the cotton crop provided plenty of money. These conditions were a great improvement on those prevailing in the last famine in 1907-8. The comparative ease with which the calamity was withstood on this occasion is chiefly to be attributed to the accumulated resources and consequent enhanced staying power that the provinces had acquired from the series of five prosperous years which succeeded the 1907-8 famine. The 1914 monsoon was fortunately abundant. An extensive kharif area was sown and on the whole the harvest was one of the best that the provinces have enjoyed for some years past. This, coupled with good prospects for the ensuing rabi season, relieved the situation and, although prices remained abnormally high, afforded good grounds for anticipating that the immediate future would see an almost complete recovery.

On the whole the year was a healthy one, the number of deaths being slightly less than in the previous year. Few epidemics occurred, and cholera was much less severe in the eastern districts though here, however, there was a serious recrudescence of plague. Splendid work was done in inoculation in the affected region.

Crops, prices, and trade.

14. Of the kharif crops in 1913 juar and rice, early and late, were all well below the normal in area and each showed a decline from the 1912 figures. The late rice area fell particularly, as it was impossible to transplant the seedlings in the drought of August. On the other hand the areas sown with cotton, sugarcane, small millets, bajra, and maize were all above the normal, though with the exception of that for cotton all were less than in the year preceding. The cotton area was over 1½ million acres, a record for the provinces. This was due partly to the abnormal conditions which enabled the land to be prepared early, and partly to the great profits resulting from the high prices of 1912. In outturn all the kharif crops were considerably below normal, cotton, maize, and early millets being least affected. Sugarcane and rice, both early and late, suffered badly, while the juar yield was only 40 per cent. of the average. Barley and rapeseed were the only rabi crops with an area above normal. Gram and linseed with percentages of 53 and 46 respectively showed the most marked reductions. Fortunately there was comparatively little decrease in the area under wheat. As already pointed out, the rabi outturn was uniformly disappointing. Wheat and barley failed extensively where sown on unirrigated lands, but extraordinary efforts were made to irrigate them this year. The resulting yield for wheat and barley was 75 per cent. of a normal, for linseed 70 per cent., and for gram only 50 per cent.

The failure of the crops at once caused prices to rise, and they remained high throughout the year under report. The mean price for wheat was about 10 seers per rupee up to June, and from then to September it fluctuated between 9 and 10 seers. The dearest rate touched was $8\frac{9}{16}$ seers per rupee in September 1914. The price of barley followed much the same course, and at the end of the year the mean price was $12\frac{7}{16}$ seers per rupee. The severity of prices is most clearly shown in the case of the two food grains juar and gram. At the beginning of the year the respective mean prices for these were 13½ and

$12\frac{3}{7}$ seers per rupee, already abnormally high, and by June they had risen respectively to $10\frac{1}{6}$ and $10\frac{1}{20}$ seers. At the end of September juar had fallen to $12\frac{1}{5}$ seers, but gram had risen further to $9\frac{1}{3}$ seers. The declaration of war in August seems at once to have had a disturbing effect on prices, which is dealt with elsewhere, and in view of this it is satisfactory to note that rates during the remainder of the revenue year rose no higher than they did.

The unfavourable character of the year is faithfully reflected in the trade statistics for the province. The total weight of rail-borne traffic declined by 11 per cent. Imports into the province increased by 24 per cent. in weight and 22 per cent. in value. This was due to the enlarged import of food cereals, which in weight exceeded five times that of the previous year, and of fodder. Exports on the other hand decreased by 36 per cent. in weight and 20 per cent. in value. The decrease was due to the retention of grain on account of the local deficiency. The export of cotton, however, rose in value from 354 to 475 lakhs.

CHAPTER II.—ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

11—Realization of the land revenue.

(*For details see the annual report on the revenue administration by the Board of Revenue for the year ending 30th September*, 1914.)

Total demand and collections.

15. The total demand from all sources of income under the administration of the Board of Revenue was 912 lakhs, an increase of 57 lakhs on that of the previous year. The difference was chiefly attributable to the increased amount of agricultural loan advances due for collection within the year consequent on the enormous advances granted on account of the drought. The real demand after writing-off nominal items was 911 lakhs, of which 47 lakhs were remitted and 766 lakhs collected, leaving a balance of 98 lakhs. The principal items of this balance were 45 lakhs, suspended land revenue and 34 lakhs suspended and 13 lakhs unrealized repayments of agricultural loans.

Land revenue.

16. The total enforceable demand of land revenue was Rs. 6,51,07,111. This exceeded the corresponding demand for 1912-13 by 2½ lakhs. The increase was mainly due to the enhancement of land revenue in the Allahabad division following the revision of settlements. The collections were Rs. 5,59,38,973, leaving the apparently immense balance of Rs. 91,68,138. This, however, included Rs. 45,08,592 suspensions and Rs. 46,08,809 remissions, leaving the true unrealized balance at Rs. 50,737. Of this Rs. 11,160 was enhanced revenue due to the revision of settlement in the Pilibhit district which was sanctioned too late to be realized in the year under review. The large remissions and suspensions were measures of relief against the scarcity and famine prevailing after the crop failures. The *malikana* dues were collected practically in full.

Rates.

17. Owing to the drought the calls for irrigation were greatly multiplied. This is shown by the figures for occupiers' rate, the demand for which rose to Rs. 98,34,403, an increase of more than 11 lakhs on the preceding year. There was a slight decrease of Rs. 6,729 in owners' rates, the demand for which stood at Rs. 1,77,680. The outstanding realizable balances of these rates at the end of the year were somewhat swollen, the figures being Rs. 58,876 for occupiers' rate and Rs. 1,144 for owners' rate. Under local rates and cesses the total demand fell by Rs. 40,897 to Rs. 68,72,838. The fall was due to changes in the rates in Oudh consequent on the introduction of the amended United Provinces Local Rates Act, I of 1914. Collections of local rates were satisfactory everywhere outside the Rohilkhand, Allahabad, and Jhansi divisions, where the combined balances outstanding totalled the large sum of Rs. 14,831.

Advances.

18. The conditions of scarcity marking the year necessitated extraordinary *taqavi* advances. Under Act XIX of 1883 for masonry wells and permanent improvements 42·93 lakhs were advanced, and under Act XII of 1884 for seed, cattle, and temporary requirements 148·71 lakhs. The corresponding figures for 1912-13 were 8·38 lakhs and 21·8 lakhs respectively. The magnitude of the increase is therefore obvious. Under Act XIX the greatest rises were in the Agra and Jhansi divisions, but there was a general increase everywhere outside the eastern divisions of Benares and Gorakhpur. Out of these advances 6,581 new masonry wells were completed, the construction of 9,290 more was begun, and 8,840 old masonry wells were repaired. Irrigation embankments were built to the number of 22,256, almost all being in the Jhansi divison, and 149 new tanks were completely excavated and 88 more were in progress. Under Act XII also the increase was general, but the Rohilkhand and Agra divisions took by far the most, their shares amounting to about half the total. After them the largest borrowers were the Jhansi, Lucknow, and Allahabad divisions in the order stated. The purchase of seed accounted for 55·89 lakhs and the purchase of cattle for 56·47 lakhs. The heavy losses in cattle were thus fully made good. Under Act XIX the outstanding balance at the commencement of the year was 59·11 lakhs, and under Act XII 22·48 lakhs. Excluding suspensions

of 2·44 lakhs under the former Act and 30·44 lakhs under the latter, the amounts for collection in the year under report were 10·46 lakhs and 32·75 lakhs respectively. Actual collections totalled 81 per cent. and 60 per cent. of the respective demands, leaving the balance of principal for future recovery at the close of the year at 96·37 lakhs under Act XIX and 151·25 lakhs under Act XII. Advances for aided works were made in six districts to meet the need for employment resulting from the scarcity. The balance due under this head was thus increased from 2·84 lakhs to 4·34 lakhs; the net demand for collection was ·88 lakh, of which ·72 lakh was realized.

Coercive Processes.

19. The decline in the number of coercive processes of all kinds continued, the total falling by 3,571 to 162,550. The persistence in a year of financial stringency of the steady decrease noticed since 1909-10 is evidence of constant improvement in the routine of collection. Attachments of moveable property numbered 16,501, a trifling increase, but sales after attachment decreased from 433 to 336. Immoveable property was attached in 174 cases, in only 7 of which were sales necessary as compared with 13 sales in the previous year. Considering the collection of land revenue and cesses alone, an increase was required in all processes and there was a large rise in attachments of moveables, though the number in which sales took place decreased. Canal rates also required a larger number of processes for their collection, but *taqavi* defaulters were treated leniently and fewer processes of of every description were issued under this head.

12—Settlements.

Districts under settlement.

20. Parganas Pilibhit and Jahanabad in the Pilibhit district came under settlement operations, and the settlement officer joined the district at the commencement of the year. The revision of the settlements in Etawah, Fatehpur, and Allahabad districts continued, but operations in the Kashipur pargana of the Naini Tal district remained in abeyance. In Etawah the Bidhuna tahsil and the cis-Jumna portion of Etawah tahsil were inspected, and rent-rate reports for them and also for the northern portion of Bharthna tahsil, inspected the year before, were received by the Board; the corresponding assessment proposals were sanctioned during the year. The revised revenue was declared in the part of Auraiya tahsil north of the Jumna, and the work of attestation of records was completed for the district. In Fatehpur the settlement officer inspected the Khaga tahsil, and submitted rent-rate reports for parganas Kora, Tappa Jar, Kotila, Hathgaon, Ekdala, and Dhata. Assessment proposals were submitted for the first three of these and for parganas Bindki, Muttaur, and Ghazipur, also for the alluvial mahals in Khajuha and Ghazipur tahsils. The new demand was declared in parganas Fatehpur, Haswa, Kutia Gunir, Ayah Sah, Muttaur, Ghazipur, and Bindki. In Allahabad inspection was carried out in parganas Nawabganj, Chail, Jhusi, Soraon, Sikandra, and Mirzapur Chauhari. Rent-rates were sanctioned for the last three of these and for pargana Mah, and assessment proposals were formulated for parganas Mah, Kiwai, and Mirzapur Chauhari. Good progress was also made with the attestation of records. In Pilibhit the entire area was inspected, and the rent-rate report of the Jahanabad pargana was submitted. Record operations were begun in Gorakhpur district. The revision of the Bhabar settlement was sanctioned during the year and the rent-rate proposals approved by the Board. Sanction was also accorded for the resettlement of the Bulandshahr and Basti districts. The quinquennial revisions of assessments in Bundelkhand were postponed on account of the famine.

Case work.

21. The number of cases pending from the preceding year was 7,431 and 26,996 cases were instituted during the year, giving an aggregate of of 34,427. Of these, 24,734 were disposed of during the year, leaving a balance 9,693 cases to be heard. The increase in arrears was mainly due to the very large number of suits filed in Etawah.

Cost of settlement operations.

22. The expenditure on settlement operations during the year totalled Rs. 3,09,631, the amount for the previous year being Rs. 2,45,965.

13.—Land records.

(*For details see the annual report on the administration of land records for the year ending* 30*th September*, 1914.)

Establishment. 23. A temporary surveyor was employed for about three months to test the maps of the Bulandshahr district, but permanent appointments to the sanctioned posts of skilled surveyors were not made. Definite proposals for raising the pay and improving the efficiency of the kanungo staff of the province were placed before the Board of Revenue. One inspector of kanungos was selected as a Probationary Deputy Collector.

Patwaris. 24. The patwari staff of the Unao district was strengthened by the addition of six assistant patwaris. Appointments of eight patwaris were made as permanent assistant registrar kanungos and of three as partition amins. Many officiated in the latter capacity and as assistant registrars or supervisor kanungos. The percentage of patwaris holding the patwari school certificate again rose, the figure being 95·5 per cent. as against 94·8 per cent. for the previous year. The results of the two half-yearly examinations at patwaris' schools showed improvement on those for 1912-13, but they indicate that the training which can be given in a five months' course is inadequate. Special proposals were under consideration for the training of patwaris for service in the hills. The percentage of patwaris resident in their circles rose from 82·5 to 83 per cent.

Kanungos. 25. One sadr kanungo was chosen as an approved candidate for tahsildarship and another acted temporarily as officiating tahsildar; a third was promoted general superintendent of the Collector's office in his district, and a fourth was appointed a teacher in the kanungo school. Eight supervisors were appointed as naib-tahsildars, four permanently and four sub. pro tem., and four more were raised to be sadr kanungos. Many others officiated in these posts. One diplomate of the kanungo school and eight supervisors, 7 being diplomates, were approved as candidates for naib-tahsildarship, and one supervisor and one supernumerary kanungo were appointed in the agricultural department. The year saw the removal of candidates for supervisor kanungoship from the Agricultural College, Cawnpore, and the opening of the Kanungo Training School. The course has so been reduced from three years to one year and is now confined to subjects bearing directly on the duties of a kanungo.

Revision of circles. 26. Schemes for the revision of patwaris' circles were sanctioned for the Ghazipur and Ballia districts and for the Tarai.

Testing of papers. 27. In the districts where famine or scarcity prevailed the filing of papers was retarded, but the delay was nowhere serious. The employment of supervisor kanungos in famine arrangements, however, materially affected the performance of their regular testing work, and the standard was lowered both as regards quality and quantity, though the amount accomplished did not fall below the prescribed minimum. Testing by headquarters staffs showed an all-round decrease, the chief contributory cause of which was the exceedingly small amount done in the Jhansi division on account of famine. Tahsildars and naib-tahsildars also did less testing than in the preceding year, but sadr kanungos on the other hand did more.

Maps, records, and boundary marks. 28. Map-correction and revision of records were carried out in the Gorakhpur and Basti districts. Operations also continued in the Kashipur tahsil of the Naini Tal district until orders for postponement were received in March. A scheme for fixing permanent boundary marks in alluvial areas in the Ballia district was approved by the Board of Revenue and is being tried experimentally in five large villages. The village papers is this district were reported to be in great confusion.

Concealment of rents. 29. Concealment was reported from nine districts and suspected concealment from two others. In Basti district attestation of agreements revealed a deficiency of Rs. 5,467 in the recorded rental. Reports from Gorakhpur, Partabgarh, and Bara Banki indicate that the practice of taking *nazarana* on the renewal of leases is very common in these districts.

ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY OF THE BOMBAY BRANCH

14—Waste lands.

30. There is nothing of importance to record.

15—Government estates.

(For details as regards minor estates and Dudhi, see the annual report on the revenue administration by the Board of Revenue for the year ending 30th September 1914, and for the Government estates in the Kumaun division see the separate reports for the year ending 31st March, 1915.)

Minor estates.

31. At the commencement of the year the number of state properties was 606. During the year 11 passed out of Government's possession, and 14 fresh estates were acquired, leaving 603 estates on the registers at the close of the year. Of these, 251 belong to the Jhansi division and are largely those dealt with under the Bundelkhand Encumbered Estates Act, and 211 are small scattered state properties coming down from the kingdom of Oudh. The total rental demand, including arrears, was Rs. 3,52,658, which was an increase of Rs. 6,135 on the previous year, but only 77 per cent. was collected as against 94 per cent. in 1912-13. The nominal unrealized balance was thus Rs. 81,128, but this amount included remissions by Government on account of the famine, so that actually the outstanding realizable balance was considerably less.

Dudhi.

32. The Dudhi estate was not affected by the drought, and the crops, especially the kharif, were good; in fact the year was one of particular prosperity. The current rental demand was Rs. 24,204 and for the first time in the history of the estate it was collected in full. The total demand of all items of income, including Rs. 5,998 suspended rent of the previous year, was Rs. 47,583, of which all but Rs. 20 was realized. The expenditure was reduced from Rs. 27,069 originally sanctioned to Rs. 20,544, because Government asked for the exercise of economy; almost the whole of this retrenchment was made in the amount allotted for improvements, the actual expenditure on which was only Rs. 7,477.

Tarai-Bhabar estates.

33. The rainfall in the Tarai and Bhabar was good and the crops excellent. The estates were thus enabled to recover from the partial failure of the rains and unfavourable harvests of the previous year. The result of the year's working was a surplus of Rs. 3,09,174, which with Rs. 67,700 land revenue made the total credited to Government Rs. 3·77 lakhs as compared with Rs. 1·51 lakhs in 1913-14 and 3·44 lakhs in 1912-13. The receipts exceeded those of the year before by 2·57 lakhs, the chief increases being under the heads of rents, village grazing dues, canals, and gardens. Forest receipts showed a decrease. The total demand included ·84 lakh unremitted suspensions from the previous year, but out of this total only Rs. 8,833 was left unrealized at the end of the year, of which Rs. 1,818 is irrecoverable. The expenditure increased by ·32 lakh. Figures for the cultivated area showed some recovery but still fall a good deal short of those preceding the bad season of 1913. The revision of rents in the Bhabar was completed in the year under report. A few cases of plague, cholera, and small-pox were recorded, but no epidemic occurred and on the whole the public health was good. Malaria was somewhat more prevalent, but quinine continued popular and the marked rise in the number of pills distributed was very satisfactory. A slight decrease was noticeable in the number of deaths, but it was accompanied by a considerable fall in the number of births. Heavy floods occurred in the autumn and necessitated some extra expenditure on the renewal of irrigation works.

Garhwal-Bhabar estates.

34. The total demand for the year in the Garhwal-Bhabar estates was Rs. 23,113 as against Rs. 27,561 in the previous year. The demand was collected in full and actual receipts came only Rs. 2,528 short of those of the year before. The decrease was mainly due to the contracted area of the rabi crop sown in 1914 owing to the early cessation of the rains. Expenditure on the other hand increased from Rs. 11,954 to Rs. 14,452, the chief item of increase being repairs to irrigation works. The 1914 monsoon was abundant and produced an excellent kharif crop. The re-assessment of the estate was completed during the year. The health of the tenantry was good, but the cattle suffered from several outbreaks of rinderpest.

16—Wards' estates.

(For details see the annual report on the operations of the Court of Wards for the year ending 30th September, 1914.)

Number of estates under the Court.

35. At the beginning of the year the estates under the Court of Wards numbered 201. During the year 16 with a rent-roll of 6·6 lakhs were released and charge was assumed of 17 with a rent-roll of 6·7 lakhs. The aggregate rent-roll for the year was Rs. 1,17,51,147. Of the total of 202 estates under superintendence at the close of the year three were the property of the same ward.

Estates taken over and released.

36. The more important estates taken over were the Manda estate in the Allahabad district with an income of 2½ lakhs, and the Abdul Karim or Lalkuiti estate in the Meerut district and the Rai Krishna Chand estate in Benares district with rent-rolls of 1·12 lakh and ·47 lakh respectively. Of those released the chief was the Tamkohi estate in the Gorakhpur district with an income of over 2¾ lakhs. Charge was also relinquished of the Hearsey estate in Kheri district, the Patti Saifabad Hissa XI estate, and the Domipur estate in the Partabgarh district, and the Walipur estate in the Sultanpur district, all of which have a rent-roll of between a half and one lakh.

Financial.

37. The ordinary income of the estates under management was Rs. 1,32,50,074 as against Rs. 1,29,46,136 in the year before. The gross receipts amounted to Rs. 2,02,24,002 and the opening balance to 27·84 lakhs, giving an aggregate of 230·08 lakhs, of which Rs. 2,00,60,828 was disbursed, leaving the closing balance at 29·47 lakhs. The main items of expenditure were 45 lakhs government revenue, 24·33 lakhs for personal allowances to wards and the cost of their education, and 74·4 lakhs towards the liquidation of debts. Management charges absorbed 10·68 lakhs and works of improvement of all descriptions about 8 lakhs. Over 24 lakhs were invested and 3·29 lakhs were advanced to tenants.

Rent collections.

38. The actual collections totalled Rs. 1,00,79,367 or 85·8 per cent. of the current demand. But owing to the failure of the 1913 monsoon and the conditions of famine and scarcity consequently prevailing in parts of the province 6·62 lakhs of the demand were suspended or remitted, while rents aggregating 1·19 lakh were secured by decrees or paid in advance. If these sums be excluded, the percentage of collections to current demand was 91·8 as compared with 96·8 in the preceding year. A similar decrease was evident in the realization of arrears, the collection percentage for which fell from 39·4 to 27·1. The total collections, current and arrear, amounted to 94·2 per cent. of the total recoverable demand. The decline in collections was almost entirely due to the unfavourable character of the year, details of which have been given in a previous paragraph.

Land revenue.

39. Payments on account of land revenue, rates, and cesses aggregated Rs. 45,07,347. Revenue was suspended or remitted to the extent of Rs. 2,08,671. The incidence of the full demand was 40·1 per cent. on the aggregate rent-roll and 46·8 per cent. on the current rental collections.

Cost of management.

40. The total cost of managing the estates amounted to Rs. 10,67,558, a sum only very slightly in excess of that for the preceding year, but the percentage of cost to gross income rose from 8·1 to 9·3. This was a considerable increase, but it was almost wholly due to the reduced income of the estates. The special scheme of management was in force in 19 estates. The revised Court of Wards manual was published during the year.

Repayment of debts.

41. The liabilities of the estates when superintendence was assumed, amounted to 422 lakhs and, including the fresh loans taken to liquidate old debts, the Court of Wards have subsequently incurred further liabilities to the extent of 553 lakhs. Of the aggregate debt of 975 lakhs, 353 lakhs have been cleared off by renewed borrowings, 173 lakhs by the sale of property, and 226 lakhs out of surplus profits. The debts still due at the close of the year therefore totalled 223 lakhs. The payments towards principal and interest during the year under report were over 74 lakhs, and the amount of fresh debt incurred, including conversion of loans, was 43 lakhs.

Improvements.

42. Slightly more than 8 lakhs were spent on improvements, an increase of 1·2 lakh on the expenditure for the previous year. The dry seasons led to remarkable progress in the construction and improvement of wells. The total number completed or taken in hand was 1,056, or 258 more than in the previous year. Half of these were undertaken directly by the estates at a cost of Rs. 95,000, and the remainder were constructed by the tenants with the estates' assistance. Over a quarter of a lakh was also spent on embankments, and the additional area protected by wells and embankments is estimated at over 17,000 acres. A number of estates extended their cattle-breeding operations and the provision of bulls was reported to be greatly appreciated by the tenants.

Sanitation and education.

43. Nearly 69 lakhs were disbursed under the heads of sanitation and medical aid to tenants, as compared with 55 lakhs in the foregoing year. The expenditure on medical relief rose by Rs. 5,337 to Rs. 43,939, and that on sanitation by Rs. 3,469 to Rs. 20,015. The travelling dispensary maintained as an experiment in the Tirwa estate in the Farrukhabad district proved an undoubted success. No serious epidemics occurred, but wherever fever, cholera, or plague appeared the usual remedies and assistance were provided from the estate funds. Vaccination work was carried out efficiently. A sum of Rs. 71,790 was spent on the education of the tenantry, an increase of Rs. 10,956 on the year before. In addition to this two estates between them paid Rs. 7,000 which had been promised to local schools before the Court of Wards assumed charge, and the Awa estate presented Rs. 15,000 to the Balwant Rajput High School, Agra. The estates maintained 119 schools at their own expense, as against 105 in 1913-14.

Agricultural banks.

44. The famine and scarcity in the year under review severely tried the resources of co-operative societies in Court of Wards estates as well as elsewhere, but on the whole the societies emerged successfully. Owing to the special conditions prevailing any expansion of the existing societies was for the time being discouraged, and the opportunity was taken to improve their internal organization. A noteworthy feature of the year's work was the spread of agricultural improvements amongst the members through the agency of their societies. The Court of Wards make advances to district banks or village societies operating in estate villages on condition that the societies advance to the tenants as much as they receive from the Court.

Litigation.

45. During the year the Court of Wards appeared as a party in 30 civil suits exceeding Rs. 10,000 in value, of which 15 were decided in its favour and two adversely. Four cases were compromised and nine remained pending at the close of the year. Of the 24 appeals in which the Court of Wards was concerned seven were won, three were compromised, one abated, and 13 were still pending at the end of the year.

Audit of accounts

46. The accounts of 97 estates were audited during the year as against 95 in the previous year. In most districts the accounts were found to have been maintained with care and accuracy, but certain general defects were noticed in Jaunpur, Azamgarh, Lucknow, Sultanpur, and Meerut, while serious defalcations came to light in Lucknow, Cawnpore, and Banda.

Advisory committees.

47. The year under report was the first complete year in which advisory committees were at work. The business devolving on these committees was chiefly connected with estate budgets and expenditure on the ceremonies pertaining to births, deaths, and marriages. Many district officers acknowledged the valuable assistance given by the committees, and in particular their advice on ceremonial expenditure was of the greatest advantage.

17—Revenue and rent-paying classes.

(*For details see the annual report on the revenue administration by the Board of Revenue for the year ending 30th September*, 1914.)

Rent litigation in Agra.

48. The number of suits and applications actually filed during the year in the province of Agra was 370,113. But owing to the fact that September 30th, the last statutory day for the filing of ejectment and enhancement cases, was a holiday both in 1914 and in the preceding year, it

is necessary to deduct 27,690 cases filed on the 1st October 1913 and to add 8,396 filed on 1st October, 1914 in order to arrive at the correct figures for cases belonging to the year under review. When this has been done the number of suits and applications for 1913-14 becomes 350,819, a slight decrease of 4,326 cases, or a little more than 1 per cent., from the corresponding total for the previous year. In the detailed figures below the adjustments mentioned above have been made.

Arrears of rent, and ejectment suits for arrears.

49. Arrears of rent suits numbered 157,896 as compared with 153,515 in the previous year. This is an increase of somewhat less than 3 per cent. and the total is still below that of any of the four years ending 1911-12. Applications for ejectment for arrears increased by a little over 1 per cent. to 34,458, but ejectment was actually ordered in only 6,054 cases, or 774 fewer than in the preceding year, and the area from which tenants were ejected also showed a small but satisfactory diminution.

Enhancement of rent.

50. As a result of the unfavourable season suits for enhancement declined by 2,312 to 10,911. They are still largely in excess of the figures for 1910-11, when the total stood at 6,347.

Surrenders.

51. As could only be expected in a bad year, the number of voluntary relinquishments of holdings by tenants showed a decided rise. The total was 12,012 as compared with 10,464 in 1912-13. In Muttra the decrease still continued satisfactorily and the number was this year only 166 as against 1,143 in 1910-11. The approach of settlement operations accounted for the great increase in the Gorakhpur division.

Ejectments other than for arrears.

52. Ejectment suits show a decrease of 13,264 institutions, or nearly 11 per cent., on the previous year's figures. The falling-off was shared in by all divisions except Gorakhpur and was undoubtedly due to the prevailing conditions of scarcity. In the Gorakhpur division the drought was comparatively little felt and prospective settlement operations were an incentive to extra litigation. Of the 115,628 cases disposed of during the year ejectment was actually ordered in 90,631, or 2,859 less than in the preceding year. The area affected, however, expanded from 245,178 acres to 256,896 acres.

Protected area.

53. The constant increase, observed since the passing of the present Tenancy Act, in the area protected by occupancy rights and long-term leases was well maintained. The figures rose from 14,288,498 acres in 1912-13 to 14,444,254 acres in the year under review.

Rent litigation in Oudh.

54. The institutions under Act XXII of 1886 were 118,411, or 24,175 in excess of the 1912-13 figures. The increase is more than accounted for by the enormous rise of 25,187 in the number of suits for the resumption of rent-free grants due to the expiry of the term of limitation for a certain class of these suits on the 1st January, 1914. Suits for arrears of rent increased, but the increase followed a large decrease in the year before and calls for no comment. Applications for the service of notices of relinquishment increased by 2,228 to 7,310. Applications for assistance to eject by notice fell by 1,477 to 16,337. In consequence suits to contest enhancement or ejectment also decreased by 994 to 4,785. There was a small rise in the number of ejectments of statutory tenants for unsatisfied arrears.

Rent court work.

55. The year opened with a pending file of 105,853 suits and applications in Agra and 2,269 in Oudh. Adding the gross number of new institutions, the respective aggregates for disposal were 475,966 and 120,680. The balances awaiting decision at the close of the year were 119,662 in Agra and 7,766 in Oudh. In the case of Agra, if no account be taken of enhancement and ejectment suits filed between the 30th June and the 1st October, as these cannot be disposed of till after the 30th September, the number of cases pending at the end of the year was only 3,211 in excess of that for the previous year. The probable explanation of the increase is that the famine and scarcity relief work which the revenue staff were called upon to carry out rendered less time available for ordinary court work. In Oudh the enlarged pending balance was entirely attributable to resumption cases. The number of applications for execution of decrees for disposal rose from 151,786 to 158,788, and the pending balance from 13,575 to 16,302. Appeals to Collectors rose from 6,377 to 6,626, the highest total on record.

The unfavourable season brought about a reduction in the number in Agra, and the increase in the combined total was due to appeals in resumption suits in Oudh. Appeals to Commissioners declined from 9,170 to 8,424. The balances pending at the close of the year increased in both sets of courts. Appeals to District Judges decreased from 1,968 to 1,887. The percentages of appeals to appealable cases for the three classes were 5·17, 11·88, and 15 respectively, and the percentages of appeals, excluding remands, that were totally unsuccessful were similarly 62, 69½, and 57. These results were a slight improvement on those of the previous year. Honorary assistant collectors disposed of 24,374 cases, or 5,569 more than in 1912-13.

Mutations in revenue papers.

56. A slight rise, from 232,377 to 239,380, occurred in the total number of mutations of proprietary rights. Mutations due to sales by the order of courts showed only an insignificant increase despite the badness of the year. Sales by private transfer numbered 33,762, or 27 less than in the previous year, while succession and mortgage cases increased by 4 and ·03 per cent. respectively to 132,598 and 30,110. Seven out of the ten divisions, however, show a decrease in successions due to the healthy year, and the total increase is the result of the efforts made to bring the proprietary registers up to date in Kumaun. Redemption of mortgage cases totalled 20,067, or a small excess of 50 over the figure for the past year.

Partition cases.

57. The balance of partition cases pending at the commencement of the year was 6,630 New institutions numbered 4,170, or 510 fewer than in the preceding year, and the number of cases disposed of rose from 4,197 to 4,564. The pending file, which had risen by 483 in 1912-13, was consequently reduced to 6,236 at the close of the year.

Chapter III.—PROTECTION.

18—Legislative authority.

58. There are no changes to be recorded under this head.

19—Course of legislation.

59. The following five Bills were dealt with during the year 1st April, 1914 to 31st March, 1915:—

(1) The United Provinces Steam Boilers and Prime Movers Bill, 1913.
(2) The United Provinces Excise (Amendment) Bill, 1914.
(3) The United Provinces District Boards (Amendment) Bill, 1914.
(4) The Bundelkhand Alienation of Land (Amendment) Bill, 1915.
(5) The Bundelkhand Encumbered Estates (Amendment) Bill, 1915.

The report of the select committee on the United Provinces Steam Boilers and Prime Movers Bill, 1913, was presented and taken into consideration on the 16th November, 1914. The Bill was passed into law on the 16th November, 1914, as Act III of 1915.

The United Provinces Excise (Amendment) Bill, 1914, which was introduced into the Council on the 14th September, 1914, was passed into law on the 16th November, 1914. It is now Act I of 1915.

The United Provinces District Boards (Amendment) Bill, 1914, was introduced into the Council and passed into law on the 16th November, 1914. It is now Act II of 1915.

The Bundelkhand Alienation of Land (Amendment) Bill, 1915, was introduced into the Council and referred to a select committee on the 17th February, 1915.

The Bundelkhand Encumbered Estates (Amendment) Bill, 1915, was introduced into the Council and referred to a select committee on the 17th February, 1915.

20—Police.

(For details see the annual report on the administration of the Police department for the year ending 31st December, 1914, and the tables under the head "Police," Part VI—Statistics of British India.)

Crime statistics.

60. The total volume of reported crime, including the number of true cases reported to magistrates, was 178,594 cases, showing a substantial increase of 15,936 cases, or 9·7 per cent., on the figures for the previous year. The very large rise is attributed to the failure of the winter rains and to the high prices prevailing throughout the year, and also in the latter half of the year to the disturbing effect on all classes caused by the outbreak of war, of which the criminal element took full advantage. The most marked increase was in serious crime against property, but serious offences against the person and minor offences against property were also far more numerous than usual. Riots were rather less frequent, the number of true cases declining from 1,019 to 1,012. Only one riot of importance occurred and this concerned cow sacrifice at Basti during the Id. Kidnapping of girls on the other hand appeared to be on the increase. The incidence of all crime per 10,000 of population was 36·5 as against 33·3 in 1913.

Investigation.

61. A gratifying feature of the year's work was a further diminution in the percentage of the total number of crimes in which the police exercised their discretionary powers to refuse investigation. The percentage fell from 33·6 in 1913 to 30·9. A decrease, from 4,639 to 4,425, was also recorded in the number of cases struck off as false or due to mistake. Substantial progress was again made in the matter of investigations by gazetted officers, the number rising by 193 to 1,489. In cases investigated by the police the percentage of convictions was 38·8 as compared with 41·4 in 1913, and the

percentage of persons convicted to persons arrested 77·1 as against 77·3. The fall in the figures for convictions was possibly to some extent due to the fact that the proportion of cases investigated by the police rose from 59 to 62 per cent. But the percentage of convictions has been steadily declining for some years, and the real explanation is considered to lie in the fact that the rapid rise in prices during the last decade has rendered the scale of pay of the police insufficiently remunerative. This has adversely affected recruiting, but its effects are deeper than that. The greatest sufferers are the investigating staff and the constables. In working out cases and bringing them safely to trial the investigating officer has to meet many out-of-pocket charges of which no official cognizance is taken. It must be extremely hard for him to live on his pay if he avoids corruption on the one hand and secures successful prosecutions on the other. Some corroboration of this is found in the present difficulty of obtaining candidates of decent family and education for the training school —a difficulty that has driven the Local Government most reluctantly to the promotion of a large number of head constables. The position is no better with the rank and file, whose pay falls decidedly short of a living wage for men on whom the demands for probity and intelligence are more exacting than they have ever been. Non-cognizable crime showed a decrease of 1,352 cases, the total being 143,757.

62. The number of true cases relating to coin, stamps, and notes rose from 81 to 111. Of this total, 81 were disposed of during the year and 60 resulted in convictions. **Offences relating to coin, stamps, and notes.**

63. The returns show a marked increase in the number of murders committed during the year, the total standing at 710 as against 641 in 1913. These figures exclude false cases and cases in which the murderers committed suicide. Including 120 cases pending from the previous year, the total for disposal amounted to 830 cases as compared with 727 in 1913. Of these, 423 cases involving 964 persons were decided within the year, resulting in convictions in 310 cases involving 513 persons. The percentages of convictions to cases disposed of and of persons convicted to persons arrested were 73 and 53 respectively, the corresponding figures for the preceding year being 66 and 48. The percentage of convictions to reports also improved, rising from 30 to 34. One particularly hateful form of the crime that seems to be becoming more prominent is the murder of small children for their ornaments. **Murder.**

64. Including 13 cases pending from the previous year, 86 true cases of poisoning were taken up during the year under report as against 105 in 1913. Thirty cases with 41 accused persons were tried to a conclusion, and convictions were obtained in 17 cases of altogether 20 persons. **Poisoning.**

65. The record for the year respecting dacoities is a singularly bad one. The number of true cases reported was 767 as against 557 in the previous year and, excluding cases struck off as false but including cases pending from the previous year, the total for disposal was 927—an increase of 263 on the corresponding figure for 1913. Proceedings were completed in 218 cases involving 1,617 persons, and 171 cases implicating 843 accused terminated in convictions. The percentage of cases resulting in a conviction to the total number disposed of was 78 as against 80 in 1913, while the percentage of accused convicted in cases fully tried out was 52 as against 49. The number of cases in which firearms were observed to have been carried was 323 as compared with 173 in the preceding year. Dacoity was particularly prevalent in the Meerut, Moradabad, Pilibhit, and Farrukhabad districts, and in the whole of the Agra division. The increase of dacoity is attributed to the causes that have already been mentioned as underlying the general growth of crime in 1914. **Dacoity.**

66. True cases of robbery reported during the year totalled 1,035 as against 985 in 1913. The prosecution was successful in 273 cases and 374 persons were convicted. Of the cases concluded during the year 84 per cent. ended in convictions as compared with 74 per cent. in the year before. Robberies were most frequent in the Meerut and Moradabad districts, but the Agra, Farrukhabad, and Pilibhit districts and the larger part of the Lucknow and Gorakhpur divisions also suffered badly. The number of true cases of **Robbery, burglary, and theft.**

burglary went up from 64,787 to 76,296, and in all there were 77,082 for disposal. The proportion of convictions to reports remained as before 6 per cent., while the percentage of cases convicted to cases taken up and finally settled rose from 86 to 87. Cases of ordinary theft also increased markedly, the number for disposal being 42,250 as compared with 39,953 in 1913. Of these, 7,482 were tried to a conclusion and 6,642 resulted in convictions, a rather higher proportion than in the preceding year. The percentage of convictions to reports rose from 12 to 16. Only one case of theft of a service rifle was reported during the year, and in this the rifle was subsequently recovered minus the bolt. The amount of property stolen was valued at 40½ lakhs, or 5 lakhs more than in 1913. The percentage of recovery fell from 15 to 12.

Cattle theft.

67. In all the police had to deal with 5,989 cases of cattle theft during the year as compared with 4,790 in 1913. Of these 1,712 were tried to a conclusion and 1,502 ended in conviction, which was a slight improvement on the results of the year before. The increase was due to the special agricultural conditions of the year.

Criminal tribes.

68. The settlements controlled by the Salvation Army embraced about 2,000 members of the gipsy tribes, or considerably more than in the previous year, and excellent progress was made in getting the latter to work for their living. The industries that have been set on foot in the settlements are very varied. The quality of the work turned out is quite fair, and during the year a sales dépôt was established at Lucknow to improve the business prospects of the enterprise. The conduct of the settlers was on the whole satisfactory. No fresh settlements were formed during the year. Registration under the Criminal Tribes Act of 1911 of the tribes against whom Government had originally decided to take action was almost completed by the end of the year. In the regions where hereditary criminal tribes are settled their registration was found to have caused a considerable reduction in the number of burglaries and thefts. A commencement was made in the year under report in bringing organised gangs under the operation of the Act.

Surveillance.

69. The number of persons dealt with under the bad livelihood sections of the Criminal Procedure Code was 6,899 as compared with 5,356 in the previous year. The percentages of persons called upon to find security under sections 109 and 110 were 83 and 87 respectively, and 5 and 10 per cent. respectively were able to furnish it. The average security demanded was Rs. 147 under the former section and Rs. 255 under the latter. Section 110 was therefore employed with more success and with more severity as well as with greater frequency than in 1913. Section 109 was not used quite as stringently as before. At the end of the year under report history sheets were being maintained for 54,350 persons as against 53,729 at the end of 1913, and the number on the surveillance register had risen from 27,340 to 28,026.

Finger-print bureau.

70. The finger-print slips of 18,106 unidentified persons were sent to the bureau for search during the year as against 12,918 in 1913, and 24·8 per cent. were traced successfully, an increase of 3·3 per cent. At the end of the year the total number of slips on record had risen by 16,146 to 178,302. The increase was mainly due to operations under the Criminal Tribes Act, more than half the slips received for record during the year being of criminal tribes.

Absconded offenders.

71. At the end of 1913 the number of absconded offenders entered in the register stood at 2,722, and during 1914 a further 1,054 were included, 573 were arrested, 23 died, and the names of 234 were expunged, leaving 2,946 on the register at the close of the year.

Co-operation with native states police.

72. Relations with the police of neighbouring native states everywhere continued cordial, and the co-operation of the latter proved especially valuable during the year under review in the case of the Nepal, Gwalior, and Rampur boundaries.

Village headmen.

73. The number of village headmen increased from 100,425 to 100,804, but the number of cases they reported decreased from 5,670 to 4,968. Pecuniary rewards were given to 113, the same number as in the preceding year.

74. The sanctioned strength of all branches of the force was 2,365 officers and 33,981 men as against 2,355 officers and 33,807 men in 1913. The differences consisted in the addition of 10 sub-inspectors and 202 constables and the reduction of 28 head constables. The increase was mainly due to the strengthening of the mounted police, the enlargement of the staff of railway police, and the conversion of the provincial chaukidar establishment in notified areas into constabulary police. Of gazetted officers there was an increase of one assistant superintendent. Resignations, which had risen from 1,378 in 1912 to 1,532 in 1913, reached a total of 1,601 in 1914. Disquieting rumours connected with the war were probably responsible for a certain number, but the continuous character of the increase points to the operation of underlying causes of a more permanent nature. These are to be found in the economic changes to which reference has been made in paragraph 61. The total cost of the force rose by 2·36 lakhs to Rs. 86,77,050. Strength and cost of the police.

75. Considering the adverse circumstances of the year the general behaviour of the force was highly creditable. Escapes from police custody, however, rose from 42 to 70. Charges of ill-treatment and extortion against the police were rare. Fourteen officers were dismissed, 129 were punished departmentally, and five by the courts, the corresponding figures for 1913 being 16, 110, and 6. The number of men punished departmentally increased from 647 to 764, but the dismissals fell from 343 to 330. Rewards of various descriptions were given to 12,812 men as against 11,052 in the previous year. Punishments and rewards.

76. The strength of the armed police remained the same as in the three preceding years. The mounted police establishment was reinforced during the year by the addition of six sub-inspectors, 23 head constables, and 117 constables, the total strength at the end of the year being 10 sub-inspectors, 33 head constables, and 363 constables. Armed and mounted forces.

77. The jurisdiction of the Government railway police of the province was extended to 66 miles of new line, entailing the addition of 2 sub-inspectors, 5 head constables, and 37 constables. As everywhere else, crime showed a general increase. Investigations were made in 5,515 cases, or 91 per cent., as compared with 90 per cent. in 1913. Cases of attempted derailment of trains decreased from 32 to 26. All were investigated, but in only two was a prosecution launched, of which one resulted in a conviction and the other in an acquittal. Railway police.

78. Three collisions of importance occurred during the year, but only one death was caused. Railway accidents.

79. Rupees 35,048 were distributed in rewards to 14,691 chaukidars during the year as against Rs. 41,849 to 18,324 chaukidars in 1913. The number of punishments inflicted on chaukidars increased from 1,908 to 2,314. Unlike the village chaukidars, the road chaukidars seldom give active assistance in a case, and it has therefore been decided to try the experiment in the Gorakhpur district of abolishing them altogether. Rural police.

80. Out of 152 students 142 sat for the final examination and 135 passed. Training school.

81. Officers of the department were engaged in 131 original enquiries during the year, of which 30 related to civil suits. The corresponding total for the previous year was 155. The chief enquiries included two important murder cases, a number of frauds by bogus banks and companies, and cases of poisoning, forgery, swindling, bribery, theft of currency notes, and false civil suits. Eight of the last-named were brought to a successful conclusion, but 15 had to be abandoned without a prosecution. The outbreak of war added greatly to the work of all branches of the department. In August a press bureau was started by the newspaper branch which provided a daily bulletin of the war news in three languages. This proved most popular, and by the end of the year the daily issue exceeded 16,000 copies. Criminal investigation department.

82. The scheme for the conversion of the notified areas chaukidari force into provincial constabulary was carried out, and the mounted police force was re-organized. In the criminal investigation department a criminal tribes branch was formed and the creation of an official press bureau has already been mentioned. The number of officers and men who qualified for certificates in "first aid to the injured" was 1,518 as compared with Reforms and re-organization.

2,247 in 1913. Regular classes were held for instruction in the regulation of traffic in large towns, and considerable improvement is already manifest. Eight police stations and eight outposts were built during the year, but many police buildings are still in a deplorably dilapidated condition and much remains to be done.

21—Criminal Justice.

(For details see the annual reports on Criminal Justice for the year ending 31st December, 1914, and the tables under the head "Criminal Justice," Part VI—Statistics of British India.)

AGRA.

General. 83. The sessions division for Kumaun was reconstituted during the year, and the Commissioner of Kumaun was thus relieved of his duties as Sessions Judge.

Number of trials. 84. Including cases pending from the previous year, the number of offences reported under the Penal Code rose from 109,887 to 111,452, and the number of persons under trial from 147,863 to 158,296. Of the total, 80,591 cases were returned as true as against 79,917 in 1913. The increase was a natural consequence of the agricultural conditions of the year. The excess in the number of accused persons was more than proportionate to the rise in the number of cases. This is attributed partly to the increased number of robberies and dacoities, and partly to the fact that although cases under the head of hurt were 2,000 fewer than in the previous years there was an increase of 2,000 in the number of persons charged with such offences. The number of true cases relating to marriage decreased from 3,379 to 3,014, and as usual very few resulted in convictions. Offences against special and local laws showed an increase from 52,485 to 55,336. This included a rise of over 25 per cent. in offences against the Canals Act due to the drought, and a gratifying increase in cases under the Act for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. Cases under the Sanitation Act, however, fell by 30 per cent. The percentage of persons convicted to persons under trial was 41 in magistrates' courts and 70 in courts of session, the figures being the same as for the preceding year.

Duration of trials. 85. The average duration of trials before magistrates was nine days as in the previous year, and before courts of sessions 37 day, an increase of one day. The combined average was 10 days.

Punishments. 86. Death sentences increased from 87 in 1913 to 113 in the year under review, and sentences of transportation from 209 to 344. The figures for persons sentenced to rigorous imprisonment and to imprisonment for more than 7 years were 19,890 and 253 respectively as against 15,470 and 146 in 1913. Fines were imposed on 69,940 persons as compared with 67,381 in the year before, and whippings were inflicted on 2,168 as against 1,724.

Appeals and revisions. 87. The number of appellants and applicants for revision rose from 21,073 to 24,464. In 8,811 cases the appeal or application was rejected, in 11,320 the lower court's order was confirmed, and in 74 the sentence was enhanced. The sentence was altered in 2,235 cases, and reversed in 3,340 cases. Proceedings were quashed in 280 cases, while 824 were remanded for a fresh trial. The percentage of totally unsuccessful appellants rose from 68 to 71.

OUDH.

Number of trials. 88. As in Agra, and for the same general reasons, there was an increase in the number of cases reported during the year under both the Penal Code and other Acts, the total returned as true under all laws being 43,542 as against 40,622 in 1913. Theft, receiving stolen property, and criminal trespass were chiefly responsible for the increase. Offences affecting life and hurt showed a slight diminution. The number of accused under trial during the year rose from 90,383 to 93,094. The proportion of convictions to persons brought to trial was higher in every class of court than in 1913.

Duration of trials. 89. The average duration of trials was 9·09 days for magisterial courts and 35·43 days for courts of session, the corresponding figures for the year before being 8·89 and 34·56 respectively.

Punishments.

90. Capital punishment was awarded to 69 persons as against 80 in 1913, but sentences of transportation on the other hand showed a marked increase from 109 in 1913 to 184 in the year under review. The number of persons ordered to undergo rigorous imprisonment rose from 5,493 to 6,724, and the number penalised by fine from 18,954 to 20,305, while 813 suffered whipping as compared with the previous year's total of 708.

Appeals and revisions.

91. The number of appellants and applicants for revision was 1,481 as against 1,427 in 1913. In 1,099 cases the appeal or application was rejected, and in 1,367 the sentence was upheld, while on 14 occasions the sentence was enhanced. In 41 cases the lower court's order was modified, and in 130 the finding was reversed, the corresponding figures for the preceding year being 11 and 52 respectively. Proceedings were quashed in seven cases, and a new trial ordered in 209. At the close of 1914 the balance of appeals pending had been reduced by 202 to 142.

22—Prisons.

(For details see the annual report on the Jail department for the year ending 31st December 1914, and the tables under the head "Jails," Part VI—Statistics of British India.)

General.

92. At the beginning of 1914 the number of prisoners of all classes in the jails was 22,988. During the year 91,520 were admitted, and 88,452 were discharged, leaving 26,056 prisoners in confinement at the end of the year. The daily average number of prisoners in jail was 24,911, or 3,093 more than in 1913. The higher figures were the direct result of the increase in crime due to the unfavourable character of the year. The number of civil prisoners fell from 1,938 to 1,582, the decrease bring probably due to the futility of paying for the imprisonment of debtors while the prevailing scarcity left little chance of the realization of decrees. At the close of the year a number of prisoners, chiefly those who had committed petty offences under the stress of hunger and want, were released by Government as an act of clemency, the total number released during the year on grounds other than sickness being 253 as against 35 in 1913. The work of the jail staff was excellent.

Punishments.

93. Only 7 jail offences occurred which were so serious as to necessitate trial and punishment by criminal courts, as compared with 22 in 1913. In addition 34,507 offences were dealt with departmentally, 28,185 by minor punishments and 6,322 by major punishments. This represented a rise of 4,220 on the corresponding total for the preceding year, but the ratio of the number of offences to the prison population remained practically the same. Offences punished departmentally relating to assaults, mutiny, and escapes, decreased from 112 to 89. Escapes numbered 5 as against 7 in 1913 and 10 in 1912. Of the punishments inflicted no less than 11,195 were but formal warnings, and floggings numbered only 36 as against the 1913 figure of 47 which had previously been the lowest on record.

Expenditure.

94. The total expenditure rose from Rs. 14,86,242 to Rs. 18,08,376. The increase was due to the greatly enlarged number of prisoners and to the dearness of food-grains. The latter reason was alone responsible for a further rise, from Rs. 68-1-11 in 1913 to Rs. 72-9-5 in the year under report, in the average cost per head of the jail population.

Employment.

95. The total net cash profit earned by the jail factories during the year was Rs. 3,59,498, which was Rs. 11,520 more than in the preceding year and is the highest total yet reached.

Health.

96. Conditions of famine, scarcity, and high prices, such as prevailed in the year under report, lower the general standard of health of prisoners on admission. But in spite of this the jails continued remarkably healthy throughout the year. The death rate was only 11·9 per thousand, and but for the occurrence of an epidemic of cholera in the Bareilly central prison, it would have been even lower than the 1913 rate of 11·5 per thousand, which is the lowest but one ever recorded. The Budaun jail suffered from a chance epidemic of pneumonia.

Juvenile jail at Bareilly.

97. The number of juvenile prisoners convicted during the year showed a decrease from 161 to 152, which was very satisfactory in view

of the general increase in crime. Probably the rules recently laid down by Government for the custody and trial of juvenile offenders contributed to this result. The juvenile jail at Bareilly continued to do splendid work. An estimate for adding to the jail separate accommodation for habitual juvenile offenders was administratively sanctioned, but owing to the special circumstances obtaining the money required was not available.

23—Civil Justice.

(For details see the annual reports on Civil Justice for the year ending 31st December, 1914, and the tables under the head "Civil Justice," Part VI—Statistics of British India.)

AGRA.

Original suits.

98. The total number of suits instituted rose from 121,412 in 1913 to 122,595 in the year under review, an increase of 1,183, which is more than accounted for by a rise of 2,551 in suits for money or moveable property, suits of every other kind showing a slight decrease. The decrease for mortgage suits was 557. The value of suits instituted fell from 482 lakhs to 448 lakhs. The total number of suits before the courts rose by 3,312 to 150,109, and the total disposed of by 5,303 to 129,329. The number of contested suits decided was unusually large. The pending file was reduced during the year from 22,771 to 20,780.

Appeals.

99. Appeals continued to increase, the total for disposal rising from 13,242 to 13,968. The number disposed of rose from 8,457 to 9,719, leaving 4,939 pending at the close of the year, or 702 less than at the end of 1913. The percentage of appeals proving altogether fruitless was 66.

High Court.

100. Appeals before the High Court rose in number from 4,030 to 4,491, and the pending file again increased, the balance at the close of the year standing at 2,250, or an addition of 258 to the 1913 figure. Of the appeals decided 76 per cent. were entirely profitless.

Applications for execution of decrees.

101. Applications instituted for execution of decrees fell by 1,090 to 98,268, but 3,880 fewer were disposed of, and the pending file increased by 2,346. The percentage of fructuous applications was 51, the same as in the previous year.

Village and honorary munsifs.

102. The number of village courts rose by 7 to 312, but of these only 236 were actually working, a decrease of five from the total of active courts in 1913. Institutions rose from 10,971 to 12,061, and their value from Rs. 1,74,813 to 1,82,470. Excluding transfers to stipendiary courts, village munsifs disposed of 11,675 cases as against 10,706 in the previous year. Honorary munsifs decided 4,686 suits, or 796 more than in the previous year, 759 of the total being contested cases as against 553 in 1913. Two new courts of honorary munsifs, in the Budaun and Shahjahanpur districts respectively, were constituted during the year.

OUDH.

Suits.

103. New institutions decreased from 59,530 to 59,173, but the aggregate for disposal rose slightly, from 69,668 to 69,822. The year opened with a pending file of 8,782, and closed with one of 8,705. The total value of the suits instituted was 238 lakhs, which exceeds the figures for 1911 and 1912 though it falls short of the abnormal total of 371 lakhs recorded for 1913 which was due to a single suit for two crores.

Appeals.

104. Appeals from decrees decreased from 2,200 to 2,150, and 2,203 were disposed of as against 2,018 in 1913, the balance awaiting decision at the end of the year being reduced from 723 to 670. In 70 per cent. of the cases the appeal effected no change.

Judicial Commissioner's Court.

105. In all 707 appeals came before the Judicial Commissioner's Court as compared with 693 in 1913. The number disposed of rose from 418 to 628, the highest total attained since 1906, of which 75 per cent. were wholly unsuccessful. The pending file increased from 919 to 998.

Applications for execution of decrees.

106. The number of new applications for execution of decrees was 50,372 and the total number before the courts 57,290, or an increase of 3 per cent. on the total for the preceding year. Of these, 49,055 were disposed of, or 187 more than in 1913. The percentage of entirely infructuous applications rose from 46 to 53.

Village and honorary munsifs.

107. No change occurred in the number of village courts, but 18 out of the total of 106 were returned as having done no work. Institutions, which had declined in the two previous years, rose from 3,904 to 4,887, the same figure as in 1911; disposals show a similar increase, the total excluding transfers being 4,682 as against 3,745 in 1913. The number of honorary munsifs decreased from 26 to 24, of whom two were not at work, but the number of cases decided showed a slight increase. The bench of honorary munsifs at Sandila in the Hardoi district was abolished.

KUMAUN.

Suits.

108. In Kumaun the civil suits instituted increased from 5,390 to 5,513, and their value from 4·9 lakhs to 5·6 lakhs. The total number for disposal was 6,238 as against 5,989 in 1913. The pending balance increased during the year from 597 to 673.

Appeals.

109. The number of appeals from decrees decreased from 500 to 449, and the pending file fell from 49 to 36. Twenty per cent. of the appeals met with some success.

Execution of decrees.

110. Applications for execution of decrees increased from 3,094 to 3,308, and 510 remained pending at the close of the year as compared with 394 at the end of 1913. Complete or partial satisfaction was obtained in 47 per cent. of the applications disposed of.

24—Registration.

(For details see the report on Registration for the year ending 31st December, 1914, and the tables under the head "Registration," Part VI—Statistics of British India.)

Registration.

111. The number of documents registered rose by 9 per cent. to 287,022. The bulk of the increase was under leases, mortgages, and obligations for the payment of money. The increases under the last two heads were ascribable to the prevailing scarcity and high prices.

Financial.

112. The total receipts rose from Rs. 6,80,733 to Rs. 7,07,094, and the total expenditure from Rs. 2,93,797 to Rs. 2,99,348. In both cases the higher figures were the result of the increase in the amount of work transacted.

Prosecutions.

113. Eight prosecutions under the Registration Act were instituted during the year as against two in 1913. Of these, four resulted in convictions and three were still proceeding at the end of the year.

Inspections.

114. The number of inspections made was 562 as compared with 579 in the previous year.

25.—Municipal administration.

(For details see the annual review of municipal administration for the year ending 31st March 1915, and the tables under the head "Municipalities" Part VIII—Statistics of British India.)

Elections.

115. The number of contested elections showed a slight decline, but the percentage of eligible voters going to the poll rose from 56 to 61, and it is from the latter figures that the growth of interest in municipal politics can best be gauged. The total municipal electorate increased from 106,582 to 112,830. The question of deliberate overcrowding and other abuses at polling booths engaged the serious attention of Government and of the Commissioners, and it is hoped to modify the election rules so as to provide at least a palliative for the evil, which is inclined in certain municipalities to assume formidable proportions.

Chairmen.

116. The number of non-official chairmen remained at the previous year's figures of 20 elected and 19 appointed officers against a total of 84 municipalities.

Taxation.

117. In December 1914 advantage was taken of the pending revision of the Cawnpore schedule to consider also the question of terminal taxation from the point of view of other large municipalities, such as Lucknow and Agra, where trade conditions differ widely from those prevailing at Cawnpore. As a result of an informal conference of representatives from the boards

concerned a revised schedule has been forwarded for the approval of the Government of India. Owing to the great diversity of local conditions a rate schedule of universal application is impracticable, but it is believed that the new Cawnpore schedule is based on principles that will admit of its introduction into other cities with a minimum of modification. Apart from this little has been done during the year to alter the basis of municipal taxation. Of the 38 municipalities selected for the abolition of octroi and the substitution of direct taxation, Ghazipur alone retains the condemned impost, which has been replaced in the other 37 by taxes on circumstances and property, houses or trades, either singly or in combination. The schemes for direct taxation put forward by many municipal boards were of a somewhat tentative and provisional character not based on any clearly thought out economic principles. But this is not surprising, for direct taxation in Indian municipalities presents peculiar complicated problems and its adoption in any form evokes bitter hostility, in the face of which its advance can only be slow.

Financial position.

118. The total municipal income fell from 99·98 lakhs to 88·71 lakhs. The decrease is largely accounted for by the diminished receipts from octroi. Other forms of taxation produced slightly more than in the previous year, but the incidence of taxation per head of population fell from Re. 1-13-0 to Re. 1-11-3, and was over Rs. 2 in only ten and less than Re. 1 in no less than 42 towns. Ample scope therefore still exists for an extension of taxation on sound lines, which in conjunction with the judicious development of municipal property should enable the boards to regard the future with comparative equanimity. Until, however, it is possible to estimate the economic results of the war, retrenchment in municipal administration will be just as necessary as in other branches of public activity.

Octroi receipts.

119. As was only to be expected the receipts from octroi were seriously affected by the general economic dislocation from which the whole world suffered during the first few months of the war. The net receipts declined from 36 to 29½ lakhs and the gross receipts by nearly 8 lakhs. Muttra and Shahjahanpur experienced a decrease of 18 per cent., Bareilly and Agra 22 per cent., and Chandausi no less than 27 per cent. Signs of recovery were evident towards the close of the year, and it is perhaps a matter for congratulation that the initial loss of income was not heavier.

Receipts from taxes other than octroi

120. Receipts from taxes other than octroi totalled 21·38 lakhs as compared with 19·63 lakhs in the previous year. Half of the increase of a lakh in house-tax was due to arrear collections at Agra, while outstandings of Rs. 18,000 at the same place more than cover the provincial decline of ·13 lakhs in water rate. The increases of ·79 and ·31 lakh in the circumstances and property tax and the trades tax respectively were due to the adoption of these taxes by other municipalities, and the fall of ·18 lakh in tolls was the result of the collapse of the hill season at Mussooree, Naini Tal and Almora on the outbreak of war, a collapse which fortunately, and more especially in Mussooree, was not repeated in 1915. The amounts in lakhs brought in by the chief taxes were house tax 4·29, trades tax 2·58, tolls 1·47, water rate 3·70, circumstances and property tax 3·12, terminal tax 2·98, and pilgrims tax 1·03.

Receipts from sources other than taxation.

121. Non-taxation sources of income yielded 3·887 lakhs. This included 15·68 lakhs from grants. The income from pounds fell from ·93 to ·73 lakh, conservancy receipts from 2·22 to 2·11 lakhs, fees from markets from 2·24 to 2·11 lakhs, and proceeds from the sale of lands from 2·12 to 1·70 lakhs, while there were increases in rents from 5·88 to 6·02 lakhs, in the sale of water from 3·26 to 3·49 lakhs, and in interest from investments from ·46 to ·61 lakh. The increased yield of water rate at Agra, Cawnpore, and Lucknow, though small, was gratifying as affording an indication of the efforts which are being made to render this important service less of a millstone round the neck of municipal finance.

Special grants.

122. The amount received by municipalities in grants from Government, local funds, and other sources fell short of the previous year's figure of 21·88 lakhs by 6·2 lakhs. The decrease was mainly the result of the prevailing financial stringency, but in part also to projects for which

money had been earmarked not being ready. Of the total 14·93 lakhs were due to the generosity of the Imperial and Local Governments. Over nine lakhs were distributed for urban sanitation, the whole, with the exception of 1½ lakhs for the Lucknow sullage farm, going to various schemes for water works and drainage. These allotments were exclusive of those made by the provincial Sanitary Board from the funds placed at their disposal. In addition one lakh was distributed between Cawnpore, Benares, Lucknow, and Allahabad from the imperial non-recurring grant of 15 lakhs for the improvement of vernacular school accommodation, and over a lakh was added from provincial funds. Besides 2 lakhs out of the promised 4 from the imperial grant for sanitation Agra received towards its water works a further Rs. 80,000 from provincial savings which will be adjusted against the imperial grant in the ensuing year.

Loans.

123. The conditions accounting for the diminished income from grants also caused a further reduction in Government's loans to municipalities. The aggregate fell from 7·81 lakhs in 1913-14 to 4·72 lakhs in the year under review, out of which Dehra received Rs. 1,67,000 as the balance of its loan for its electric lighting scheme, while Benares, Lucknow, and Bahraich took half a lakh each for water works and drainage projects. Repayments of loans totalled nearly 5½ lakhs, or about the same sum as in the year before.

Expenditure.

124. The steady expansion of municipal expenditure was continued by a rise from 90·54 lakhs to 95·7 lakhs. If the capital outlay of upwards of 14 lakhs on water and drainage works be deducted, the total is reduced to 81·58 lakhs, an increase of 4·79 lakhs on the corresponding figure for 1913-14. The most noticeable rise was one of nearly three lakhs in lighting due to heavy expenditure at Dehra and Mussoorie on their electric lighting scheme, but conservancy was also responsible for an excess, 17 lakhs as against 16·10 lakhs, which is attributable chiefly to the higher cost of fodder required for the draught cattle and to extensive improvements in the latrine accommodation at Lucknow and Benares. The decrease of Rs. 90,000, from 2·38 to 1·48 lakhs, in the sum spent on markets was due to the abnormal inflation of the previous year's expenditure, and it is satisfactory to note that boards again devoted as much as 1½ lakhs to this enterprise which besides improving the conditions of food supply offers a most promising source of extraneous income for the mitigation of the growing burden of taxation. The year, however, brought further evidence that the boards are inclined to deal hardly with private enterprise when it competes with markets under their control. General administration, printing, and collection charges, together with provident fund, absorbed about 10·8 lakhs, or an increase of half a lakh on the figure for 1913-14. Public works, exclusive of water supply, lighting, and drainage cost 12·30 lakhs as against 13·07 lakhs. Establishment and buildings show slight increases, but in consequence of the straitened circumstances of the year the amount put into roads was reduced from 9·48 to 8·54 lakhs, the chief decreases being at Cawnpore, Bareilly, and Benares. Interest on loans accounted for 5·07 lakhs, medical services 2·37 lakhs, and arboriculture for 1·10 lakh. Details of other items are given in the succeeding paragraphs. Investments by the boards decreased from 7·93 lakhs to 1·31 lakh, and the aggregate balance, including deposits, had fallen by the end of the year from 42·79 to 34·74 lakhs.

Water works.

125. The capital outlay on water supply rose by ·40 lakh to 7·38 lakhs. The completion of new works caused decreases of 1·20 lakh at Cawnpore, 1·10 lakh at Allahabad, and ·96 lakh at Mirzapur, but these were more than counter-balanced by increases of 1·27 lakh at Benares and of smaller sums amounting to over 2 lakhs at Lucknow, Fyzabad, Muttra, Hardwar, Mussoorie, and Agra. Maintenance charges fell by Rs. 33,564 to 7·04 lakhs. Owing mainly to an unexpected breakdown in the pumping machinery, Benares suffered from a curtailment of water supply. The calamity clearly indicated defects in management, and Government has therefore ordered a thorough investigation.

Drainage.

126. The capital expenditure on drainage works remained at about 6¾ lakhs as in the preceding year. Decreases due to the completion of work at Benares, Aligarh, Hapur, and Cawnpore were balanced by new or increased

expenditure at Jaunpur, Bahraich, Lucknow, Allahabad, and elsewhere. The cost of maintenance decreased from 1·17 to 1·09 lakh. The work supervised by the Sanitary Engineer during the year was of the value of almost 20 lakhs, while the projects newly sanctioned amounted to 18 lakhs, and those submitted for sanction to 34½ lakhs.

Lighting.

127. Lighting involved a total disbursement of 7·96 lakhs. A company with Messrs. Martin & Co. as managing agents was formed during the year to carry out electric installations at Lucknow and Allahabad. The prospectus issued shows that a capital of Rs. 15,50,000 is being called for, ten lakhs of which have already been privately subscribed. In view of the fact that the two municipal boards concerned have guaranteed a dividend of 4½ per cent. for seven years, while Government has undertaken to draw on the current for its offices and buildings, it is hoped that local patriotism will rapidly provide the balance of the funds required.

128. The year under review saw another substantial increase in the amount spent on education, the outlay rising by 1·63 lakh to Rs. 7,14,900. The boards continued to receive liberal assistance from Government, and as already stated one lakh was divided between the Cawnpore, Allahabad, Lucknow, and Benares boards from the imperial non-recurring grant for the improvement of school accommodation. The opening of new schools was responsible for an increase in the income from school fees from Rs. 28,836 to Rs. 32,531, but this figure represents only 4·5 per cent. of the total expenditure on education.

Vaccination.

129. The number of persons vaccinated in the municipalities of the provinces in 1914-15 was 126,585, of whom 1,367 also underwent a secondary vaccination, the corresponding figures for the same areas in the previous year being 122,661 and 2,475. Successful primary vaccinations totalled 105,253 as against 100,314, and the ratio of persons successfully vaccinated per mille of population rose from 36·98 in the preceding year to 38·47. The number of successful vaccinations performed on children under one year of age increased by 3,415 to 85,085.

Vital statistics.

130. It is satisfactory to note that the improvement in the registration of vital statistics, which is being effected in conjunction with the expansion of the new cadre of municipal health officers, did not throw a less favourable complexion upon the returns. On the contrary births increased from 123,373 to 127,139, or from 41·12 to 42·63 per mille, while deaths declined from 117,606 to 116,310, or from 39·20 to 39·01 per mille. At the same time some very high death rates were recorded, Chandpur heading the list with 90·35 deaths per mille, the result of an exceptionally severe epidemic of plague. Brindaban reports 72·27 deaths per mille, Nagina 71·54, Khurja 69·92, Hathras 66·07, and Dhampur 60·81, and it is to be feared that towns so situated must always suffer heavily until effective measures can be devised to combat plague and malaria. Alleviation of malaria has, however, already received attention. Provincial and divisional committees met during the year at Naini Tal, Jhansi, Fyzabad, Meerut, Allahabad, Gorakhpur, and Agra. The works actually in progress were mainly confined to Nagina, Saharanpur, and Kosi, but another campaign estimated to cost over a lakh has been set in train for Meerut. During the calendar year 1914 infantile mortality increased from 272·82 to 292·90 per 1,000, while three municipalities have a rate of over 380 and three of over 370 per 1,000. It is therefore unfortunate that the system of training midwives is failing to meet with even a fair measure of success. It would appear that nothing short of a generally increased appreciation of the benefits of hygienic living can really advance this reform which runs strongly counter to old-standing prejudices.

General.

131. The draft of the new Municipal Bill was submitted to the Government of India in December 1914, and subsequently introduced into the local Legislative Council and referred to a select committee. The constitution of the boards themselves and the organization under which they exercise the powers derived from the Local Government and the electorate for the most part remained unchanged pending the introduction of the new system contemplated in the Bill, under which the responsibilities of the boards and their chairmen will be largely increased. The work of the three

improvement trusts was somewhat retarded—at Cawnpore by the necessity of waiting for the expansion committee's report, at Allahabad by lengthy proceedings for the acquisition of land required for the two new roads, and at Lucknow by a decline in the demand for sites which decided the board to postpone placing those on the fourth section of their new highway on the market. All of the trusts are in a sound financial position. The Cawnpore town expansion committee concluded its sittings during the year, but its recommendations have not yet reached the Local Government.

26.—District boards.

(For details see the annual report on the working of district boards for the year ending 31st March, 1915, and the table under the head "Local Boards," Part VIII—Statistics of British India.)

Income.

132. At the commencement of the year under review the boards' opening balances aggregated 63·48 lakhs, or 36·49 lakhs more than in the previous year, and the total income administered increased by 30·40 lakhs to 182·92 lakhs. Omitting the opening balances, deposits and advances, and provincial contributions, the income rose from 61·60 to 93·27 lakhs. The chief increases were local rates from 36·97 to 69·28 lakhs, the whole of the receipts from this source having now been made over to the boards instead of the grant of 32 lakhs which they received in lieu in 1913-14, education from 5·28 to 6·28 lakhs, and civil works from 6·90 to 7·82 lakhs. Police receipts fell by 2·20 lakhs to 4·72 lakhs, the decrease being due to the diminished income from pounds. This was mainly the natural consequence of the passing of the fodder famine, but the depression in the hide trade acted as a contributory factor by halving the prices realized for old animals left unredeemed. Corresponding to the increase in the income from local rates, Government contributions showed a decrease from 59·83 to 24·45 lakhs, the chief allotments being under the heads of education 17·01 lakhs, medical services 3·83 lakhs. and civil works 3·60 lakhs.

Expenditure.

133. The figures for expenditure illustrate alike the greatly enlarged resources of the boards and the difficulties which were necessarily experienced in attempting to work up to the new standards. The total expenditure rose from 86·91 to 104·16 lakhs, and the closing balances increased by 13·65 lakhs to 77·06 lakhs. The items remarkable for considerable advances were civil works from 41·16 to 54·58 lakhs, education from 26·87 to 28·96 lakhs, and medical services from 11·69 to 12·48 lakhs.

Education.

134. The reorganization of the system of primary education has presented considerable difficulties. To facilitate *inter alia* the constitution of the new primary school committees the membership of the district boards is being enlarged, and with the increased number of training classes and the gradual elimination of ill-qualified teachers it is hoped that the problem of an adequate staff will shortly be solved. As aided schools and municipal schools of all descriptions, other than those under the management of the district boards, have been excluded from the returns of schools and scholars for 1914-15, it is impossible to institute comparisons with the figures of previous years. The new education rules have been specially modified to meet the peculiar conditions of Kumaun, and it is evident that the hill districts will not lag behind those in the plains in the matter of education any further than their topographical difficulties render inevitable. Village libraries have established themselves in some degree of public favour in Hamirpur. Another new development has been the extension of the system of district board scholarships for students of the Lucknow school of Arts and Crafts, and a similar organization is being developed for other technical institutions and in Etawah for the purpose of training in agriculture. Favourable reports on the advance of female education were received from the Meerut, Agra, Allahabad and Jhansi divisions, but elsewhere little progress was apparent. A half-time system for primary schools is being tried experimentally in the Allahabad district.

Medical.

135. The number of patients treated at district boards' hospitals and dispensaries during the year under review was 4,091,100 as against 4,076,176

in 1913-14. Good reports of the work done by travelling dispensaries continued to be received, but it is clear that the benefits conferred by these institutions on the country side are mainly dependent on their being placed in charge of picked officers only. The training of *dhais* has been pushed on in Etawah and Ballia, but the progress so far achieved is small and it remains to be seen whether popular prejudice is still sufficiently strong to prevent the full utilisation of the valuable services of trained midwifes in reducing infantile mortality. It is to doubt on this point that the reluctance of other boards to undertake the experiment is mainly to be ascribed. A general decline in subscriptions has been attributed in some quarters to the new rules requiring medical treatment to be paid for by those who can afford it, but the prevailing economic dislocation and the many special calls now being made upon the charity of the well-to-do have probably also been responsible. In many districts the public spirited philanthropy of the leading residents in establishing and equipping dispensaries was well maintained. The experiment of recovering a fee for quininisation has been tried in more than one district, but the people do not yet appreciate the benefits of this service sufficiently to purchase its retention.

Sanitation. 136. The expenditure on sanitation rose from Rs. 1,02,503 to Rs. 1,21,875, and the new system of administration which is now being elaborated for town areas, coupled with an extended use of the Village Sanitation Act, may be expected to achieve further improvement. Village panchayats for improving local sanitation are still in an experimental stage, and accounts of their work vary.

Vaccination. 137. The number of persons vaccinated through district board agency was 1,502,220, or 31·84 per 1,000 of population. The corresponding figure for the previous year was 1,490,652. The total number of vaccinations performed was 1,528,672.

Vital statistics. 138. The birth rate decreased from 44·50 per mille in 1913-14 to 41·46 per mille in the year under report, and the death rate from 32·63 to 29·89 per mille. The total number of births was 1,956,220, and of deaths 1,410,247.

Arboriculture. 139. Arboriculture is making slow but steady progress, particularly in the Meerut, Agra, Allahabad, Gorakhpur, and Jhansi divisions, and valuable assistance in planting has been given in some districts by private individuals.

Civil works. 140. Pending the restoration of the staff of the public works department to its full strength and the entertainment by the boards of a full cadre of overseers and sub-overseers no striking developments in the sphere of public works can be expected. Progress has been greatly retarded, partly by the inadequacy of the superior staff and partly by the difficulty of finding contractors to execute work of this character scattered over a large area. The possibility of utilising some kind of drag on the American model as a substitute for the present systems of repair of unmetalled roads by hand labour has been under the consideration of Government for some time, and experiments are to be made in the Kheri and Allahabad districts.

General. 141. The most prominent feature of the year under report has been the reorganization required by the revision of the financial contracts between boards and the Local Government. It is as yet too early to judge of the effects of these measures. Many boards have not yet fully realised the effect of the new contracts on their normal resources and the comparison has been obscured by the large non-recurring grants of the previous year. The preparation for working up to the standards indicated by the new contracts must take some time and until completed will leave boards with considerable non-recurring resources at their disposal for the buildings and other projects necessary for their extended action. A rapid expansion of veterinary work was to have been a leading feature of district board administration under the new settlement, but the heavy demands for qualified men made by the war have unfortunately brought recruitment to a standstill. The civil veterinary department has already done excellent work, and the ever widening scope of its activities and its growing popularity among the rural population are increasingly apparent.

It is therefore hoped that the recent decision, arrived at with the consent of practically every district board in the province, to provincialise the entire staff of veterinary assistants under the control of the superintendent of the department will be productive of highly beneficial results. The recent strengthening of the supervising staff of the department and the division of the province into circles will greatly facilitate inspection and control. Government is also considering the entertainment of a cattle-breeding expert, as the expansion of the preventive work of the civil veterinary department is likely to provide more than ample scope for their whole energies. Allusion has already been made to the decision to enlarge the membership of the boards. Although tahsil committees have done good work in Saharanpur, Meerut, and Allahabad it is clear that the experiment is far from becoming an established success. The institution of the new primary school committees will, however, provide a fresh channel for local endeavour and a renewed inducement to members to take a responsible interest in district board activities in their own neighbourhoods. The appointment of a full-time paid secretary, already carried out in 26 districts, will assist in remedying one of the weakest features of district board administration by providing more effective and systematic supervision. Steps have also been taken to improve the conditions of service in district board offices so as to make them sufficiently attractive to secure a better type of clerk.

27.—*Volunteering.*

(For details see the annual reports of Commandants of Volunteer Corps for the year ending 31*st March* 1915.*)*

142. The enrolled strength of the active force of volunteers was 4,546 as against 4,407 in the previous year. Of this total 782 were cavalry and 3,764 infantry. Of the cavalry 550 were extra efficient and 181 efficient, and of the infantry 2,983 extra efficient and 654 efficient. In musketry 1,190 qualified as marksmen and 1,473 as first class shots. The force was commanded by 277 officers and 453 non-commissioned officers. The reserve totalled 592, of whom 128 were extra efficient and 421 efficient. The total expenditure was Rs. 2,22,879, nearly the whole of which was covered by the capitation grants from Government. At the close of the year the balances held by the various corps aggregated Rs. 38,062.

CHAPTER IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

28.—Agriculture.

(For details see the annual reports on the administration of the department of Agriculture for the year ending 30th June 1915, on the administration of the Civil Veterinary department for the year ending 31st March 1915, and on the working of Co-operative Credit Societies for the year ending 30th June 1915, the tables in the "Agricultural Statistics of India—Volume I" and those under the head "Co-operative Credit Societies" in Part II—Statistics of British India.)

General.

143. The year was not favourable for the development of some of the principal branches of work on which the department has been engaged. The rapid fall in the price of cotton following the outbreak of war led to a great restriction of sowings, and interfered with the schemes which had been proceeding for some years past for the extension of particular types, many of the cultivators who had been growing these types for a number of seasons putting down indigo or food grains in preference to cotton. The interest already aroused in the employment of power pumping was maintained, but many landholders showed reluctance to embark on any venture involving an outlay somewhat heavy in proportion to their means. Moreover, owing to the occupation of English firms with war needs great difficulty and delay were experienced in procuring the plant required for orders received. This scarcity of plant together with the high prices made it necessary to curtail the work of the boring department and to reduce the staff. In more general matters, some of the projects entered into with district boards for the opening of district farms had to be held temporarily in abeyance as their execution would have involved larger increases in the permanent staff of the department and heavier contributions than could be asked for at the existing juncture. One farm subsidized by the district board was, however, opened in the Hardoi district. In the west of the provinces the drop in cotton prices impaired the finances of the co-operative societies, and this, coupled with the decline in the demand for cotton seed, in which it had been intended to specialize, postponed the development of the joint plans of the societies and the agricultural department for establishing seed dépôts and undertaking seed distribution. Considerable progress, however, was made in Oudh where several of the larger landlords opened farms on their estates with the primary object of providing seed of improved varieties of crops for their tenants. This new departure should prove particularly useful as a relief to the staff of the department, since, on account of the small size of the department's farms, the provision of seed presents one of their chief difficulties and the work of supplying it at present absorbs an unduly large fraction of their time. In addition a farm of some size was made over to the department to show that higher profits can be obtained from improved methods of cultivation than by existing methods.

The third post of Deputy Director of Agriculture sanctioned at the end of 1913 was filled in December, 1914. The appointment enabled steps to be taken for the establishment of a farm in the Gorakhpur district which will form the headquarters of a new circle.

Agricultural college.

144. The reorganization of the Agricultural College was completed during the year, and a start made with the new courses in October 1914. These consist of a vernacular course of two years and a higher diploma course of four years. The two are distinct, and it is not intended that one should serve as a stepping-stone to the other. The former is designed for men who desire a practical knowledge of agriculture with a view to farming their own land or entering the lower ranks of the agricultural service. It is hoped too that sons of the larger landlords interested in the improvement of their estates will be attracted by this course. The second course is for those desiring to take up a wider study of agriculture and connected sciences, and the higher ranks of the agricultural service will be recruited

from those who have obtained the diploma. It is not expected that the number taking this course will be large. So far both courses have filled satisfactorily. The extended system will require an increased staff and an enlargement of the farm attached to the college.

Assistance to the public.

145. The Economic Botanist carried on investigations with a view to breeding improved cotton in the provinces, and one of his selected varieties was tried on a field scale in Bundelkhand; but the year was unfavourable, as the canal department could not supply water for early sowings and the plants, which were sown late, were exposed to continuous rainfall. Further trials are being made. The Cawnpore-American cotton having become somewhat mixed selection work was begun with the object of securing a more uniform type and eliminating the plants with a low ginning percentage. Research work was continued at the Shahjahanpur farm on sugarcanes, indigenous as well as foreign, that are likely to prove suited to the requirements of these provinces. The opening of the Gorakhpur farm will permit of similar work being carried on there for the eastern districts where the climatic conditions differ somewhat markedly from those in the west. The introduction of improved sugar machinery also engrossed the attention of the department. The plant brought out by the sugar engineer, which was designed for use by small capitalists, gave promising results and is to be tested more rigorously in the next season. Other experiments were conducted aiming at turning out a small-power mill capable of being worked by the oil engines ordinarily employed for pumping purposes. Numerous applications have been received for a plant of this nature. No satisfactory design has yet been evolved, but the experiments are proceeding. A suitable wheat has already been found for the bulk of the provinces, and work on wheat was therefore confined to testing special types for particular tracts, such as Bundelkhand and the submontane districts. In consequence of reports that some shipments of Indian barleys to Europe had proved unsatisfactory for malting, the grains failing to germinate, an enquiry was undertaken by the Economic Botanist to discover the reason for the defect. He concluded that the failure to germinate was probably due to exposure to excessive humidity at high temperatures. The causes of a somewhat widespread disease of the poppy crop which was resulting in a decline of the yield were also investigated. A good deal of experimental work was carried on at the farms on various crops with a view to testing varieties and ascertaining their suitability for different localities. Amongst those dealt with were tobacco and flax. In addition the farms were of great service for demonstrative purposes; the matters illustrated included the practical value of power pumping, the superiority in yield of approved varieties of seed, deep sowing for maize in light soils, potato storage in sand to prevent the ravages of the potato moth, green manuring, and deep ploughing. A steam plough is being tried in the Muttra district and a motor plough in Bundelkhand for eradicating weeds.

Distribution of seed.

146. As in previous years, the provision of seed took up most of the time of the officers of the department, and it is undoubtedly one of the forms of assistance most appreciated. A large organization has now been built up for supplying cotton seed, but this year, as already explained, the demand was comparatively small. On the other hand the demand for indigo seed, for which the department was not prepared, was very great, while that for wheat was on an unprecedented scale. The former was due to the suspension of the German synthetic product, and the latter to actual scarcity of seed following a poor harvest. Sufficient wheat seed to fulfil the large number of orders received could not in fact be procured. Owing to the promise of higher prices for *gur*, sugarcane was in request, but the demand is difficult to satisfy, as when despatched by rail the cane is apt to die in transit. Aligarh white-flowered cotton was distributed in the west and in parts of the central districts, and the Cawnpore-American in the districts round Cawnpore. Seed of a number of other crops was distributed from the different farms, the demand in the eastern circle being for rice, barley, and peas. Groundnuts are now fully established, and the demand for seed has therefore somewhat fallen off.

Sale of implements.

147. Arrangements have now been made at all farms and at some of the co-operative societies' dépôts for the sale of implements. Ploughs continued most in demand. The practice was introduced of awarding implements instead of money prizes at the agricultural exhibitions.

Sheep-breeding.

148. Sheep-breeding experiments were carried on at some of the farms in conjunction with the civil veterinary department. The results were very encouraging. A considerable amount of experience has now been gained regarding the crossing of country sheep with merino rams and the localities where the half-bred is likely to do well.

Well sinking.

149. Well borers were withdrawn from the submontane districts as their work there met with little and very irregular success. Elsewhere they did good work and a keen demand existed for their services. The number of existing wells bored was 1,185 as against 1,642 in the previous year, the decrease being due to scarcity of plant and reduction of staff. Tube wells were successfully introduced in many places, and a number of borers have been deputed for training in this branch of work. Power plant for wells is extending mainly in the Bulandshahr and adjoining districts, where a local company, working with the department, has been formed for importing and installing oil engines.

Agricultural associations, shows, etc.

150. In spite of the unfavourable nature of the year some further progress was made in all but the cotton-growing areas in developing relations with co-operative societies, and the latter have begun to make arrangements to undertake seed distribution. Three interesting co-operative irrigation schemes are now on trial, the first that of the Kunwar society for pumping water from the Gumti, the second for a portable plant for working wells in the Bulandshahr district, and the third for a tube well in the Hardoi district. The Mainpuri Agricultural Association opened a demonstration farm and also registered a separate society for the supply of seed. Some 17 agricultural exhibitions were held during the year. They were popular and well attended, and their usefulness is being increased by opening demonstration farms near the grounds. A few co-operative societies held exhibitions of their own.

Publications.

151. Two English bulletins were issued dealing respectively with well irrigation in the Jaunpur district and the water level in the subsoil of the Gangetic plain. Several papers were contributed to scientific periodicals, and the vernacular agricultural journal known as Risala-i-mufid-ul-Mazarin was produced regularly every month. As the latter did not meet the requirements of the Nagari-knowing public a monthly journal in Nagari called Kisanupharak has been started as well. A vernacular pamphlet on ploughing was also issued.

The cattle census of the United Provinces was taken during the year and a note published on the results.

Civil Veterinary Department.

Education.

152. In the year under report eight students were sent for training to the Punjab veterinary college and three to Bengal. All those already undergoing courses passed their examinations. Two students from the Punjab college and a deputy superintendent from the Bombay veterinary college joined the department after passing their respective final examinations. The practice of deputing newly joined assistants to the imperial laboratory at Muktesar was discontinued as the colleges now provide suitable inoculation training. Practical demonstration in pathology and bacteriology is now available at the new headquarters laboratory in Lucknow which was opened in the year under report. The Veterinary Medical Society continued to do good work. Bulletins were distributed on the question of the improvement of cattle and their protection against disease, and a note was published on the results of sheep-breeding experiments. A series of lectures on meat inspection were again delivered to the recently appointed health officers of the sanitary department. Lectures with magic lantern illustrations were also given to cultivators at some of the agricultural exhibitions.

Diseases.

153. The number of deaths reported from contagious disease decreased from 33,860 to 26,916, of which rinderpest was responsible for 19,839. Of equine diseases glanders and farcy appeared in seven districts and caused 11 deaths. Surra was less widespread than formerly and only 21 animals are known to have succumbed to it in the year under review. Numerous cases of tetanus were reported and ten cases of strangles, 77 of the former and one of the latter proving fatal. Many more cases of both these maladies are believed to occur than are notified to the department. Of bovine diseases rinderpest as usual was by far the most virulent though, compared with the previous year, its ravages showed some slight abatement. The mortality from hæmorrhagic septicæmia declined from 2,068 to 1,765. The figures for black quarter also showed a satisfactory decrease, only 395 deaths being recorded. According to the reports 1,585 head of cattle perished from anthrax and 1,824 from foot and mouth disease; the losses from the latter, however, were below the average. Pleuro-pneumonia and rinderpest as usual accounted for the death of a large number of sheep and goats. Protective inoculation, chiefly against rinderpest, was carried out on a very large scale, 78,194 animals being treated in this way as against 66,022 in the preceding year, and its employment enabled outbreaks to be promptly arrested. The work at the Lucknow laboratory increased considerably; numerous specimens were received for diagnosis, and experiments and inquiries were undertaken in connection with a variety of diseases. The new research station for the accommodation of animals under scientific observation was formally opened during the year. Investigations were also conducted in the slaughter houses and Burma-dried-meat factories of the provinces with a view to the formulation of proposals for the more efficient control of the butchering trades. During the year 12 new veterinary hospitals and dispensaries were opened, the total increasing to 61. The number of patients treated rose from 56,467 to 67,802. A travelling veterinary dispensary was started in the Etawah district.

Breeding.

154. Stud bulls were employed in 39 districts, the total number maintained being 116. They have been mostly supplied by the department, either by outside purchase or from its two farms in the Kheri and Muttra districts respectively. Their provision appears to be giving a much needed impetus to the local cattle-breeding industry. The Kheri farm, which has been established 4 years, held 242 head of live stock, and the Muttra farm, opened a year ago, 169. The department increased its stud of horse and pony stallions from 59 to 63. Of these 52 were at work during the year and 2,946 mares were covered by them. The number of donkey stallions remained 20 of which 16 were at stud. The number of mares covered by them rose from 709 to 786. The demand for the services of donkey stallions for mule breeding seems to be still increasing, but the limited number available renders satisfaction difficult. Sheep breeding has already been referred to in a previous paragraph.

Establishment.

155. The subordinate establishment was increased from 173 to 177. But the demand for the services of veterinary assistants in the war rendered it impossible to obtain all the extra assistants required for the enlarged staffs sanctioned by district boards under their new financial settlement with Government. The cost of the department rose from Rs. 1,08,132 to Rs. 1,40,785. The increase was due partly to initial expenses connected with the Muttra farm and partly to general expansion.

Co-operative Credit Societies.

General.

156. The crop failures of the two preceding seasons had increased the average indebtedness of co-operative societies, but the year opened in July 1914 with every prospect of the immediate repayment of a large portion of the debt. Unfortunately neither the autumn nor spring harvest came up to expectations, and the cash receipts of the people were further reduced by the slump in cotton and oilseeds following the declaration of war. In consequence the total sum owed by members to their societies had only decreased by the end of the year from 47 to 45 lakhs, of which 17 lakhs were overdue. In nearly every case, however, it appears that the arrears will ultimately be recovered. The outbreak of the war at first materially

affected co-operative banks' deposits. New deposits ceased to be offered and there was a run on the deposits of joint stock banks with which the co-operative banks were connected. The withdrawal of deposits from the latter, however, did not prove as extensive as had been feared. The co-operative banks were able to meet the calls made upon them, but they could not at the same time issue the usual liberal loans for rabi sowings which were peculiarly necessary that autumn in consequence of the failure of the previous harvests. In these extraordinary circumstances Government came to the relief of the banks by advancing them 2·55 lakhs repayable in two years. But for this timely aid a proportion of the members would have had to go back to money lenders. Fortunately confidence was rapidly restored. Government's loan was repaid in full before the close of the year under report, and deposits actually stood at a higher figure at the end than at the beginning of the year. During the year the number of societies rose from 2,800 to 2,962, their membership from 116,069 to 116,525, and their working capital from 114·2 lakhs to 117·5 lakhs. The comparative smallness of the expansion was due to the monetary difficulties already noted. The year opened with 49 societies in process of liquidation and by the end of June 1915 the number had increased to 61. Liquidation proceedings in the case of eight societies were concluded during the year and the registration of eight others was cancelled without formal liquidation. So far in all cases liabilities to creditors have been discharged in full. The banks utilized the opportunity afforded by the absence of work connected with the development of new societies to revise their rules and internal organization with a view to strengthening their financial position. The usual large advances to members for the liquidation of old debts could not be given, but cultivators who belonged to co-operative societies were nevertheless much better off than cultivators who did not. The co-operating peasant is undoubtedly becoming more thrifty, and the share capital contributed by members of societies is increasing fast, while the deposit habit is also growing slowly but steadily. Co-operative societies are playing an increasingly important part as the medium for the introduction and propagation of the various agricultural improvements to which reference has been made in the paragraphs dealing with agriculture. In particular they are of great service in popularising the best types of seed. They are likewise evincing an enhanced interest in cattle breeding. The societies continued to exist a powerful influence on the moral and social welfare of their members. Drunkenness, gambling, loose morals and social indiscipline have perforce to be sternly discouraged where a community of men stand jointly responsible for each other's debts. Notwithstanding the varying caste of members village committees are showing a growing sense of solidarity. The primary schools established by the societies have all done well. Many societies are starting funds for the benefit of indigent residents of the village. Quinine was distributed in several districts, and in Benares and Jaunpur the societies assisted in carrying out sanitary improvements. Co-operative institutions made substantial contributions to the different war relief funds, all of which were entirely spontaneous. They appear also to have done good work by disseminating correct information respecting the war. The annual co-operative conference was held at Benares and greatly stimulated the local interest in co-operation. During the year several officials from native states were under training in these provinces in co-operative work, and in two cases advice on the subject was given to states requiring a consultation.

Central societies

157. Central societies finance and supervise smaller co-operative institutions throughout a certain area, the latter being known as primary societies. During the year three fresh central societies were registered, in the Bijnor, Muttra, and Agra districts respectively. The total number of these societies at the end of the year was 58, and their working capital amounted to 63 lakhs, or 4 lakhs more than in June 1914. This small increase was due to the retention of larger cash balances. The rise in the paid up share capital from 6·31 to 7·56 lakhs was a great improvement. The reserve funds likewise showed a satisfactory increase, from 3·11 to 3·86 lakhs. The deposits and loans received by the societies totalled 42·7 lakhs, and the proportion of this

covered by the paid up share capital and reserve funds was 26·8 per cent. The business of the central banks is almost entirely confined to loans to registered societies of unlimited liability, and outside creditors were therefore amply secured. All banks worked at a profit during the year, the aggregate profit being Rs. 1,51,517. The central institutions continued to make progress with the policy of closing their transactions with individual members and devoting themselves more to local societies. The membership accordingly declined from 10,423 to 8,502, and debts due from individual members from 3·36 to 2·68 lakhs. The amount due to the central banks from society members stood at 47·97 lakhs at the beginning of the year, and fresh advances amounted to 29·48 lakhs. By the end of the year the outstandings had fallen to 45·06 lakhs, but of this 11·84 lakhs were overdue.

Rural societies.

158. Primary agricultural societies increased in number from 2,560 to 2,716, and their membership from 99,891 to 101,753. Their working capital fell from 50·71 to 49·88 lakhs, and but for the disappointing agricultural conditions and the war repayments would have been larger and the working capital still further reduced. The paid up share capital, which really represents the savings of the members, rose from 5·16 lakhs to 7·04 lakhs. The reserve funds aggregated 3·55 lakhs and the profits of the year 1·44 lakhs as against 2·37 lakhs and 1·26 lakhs respectively in the preceding year. The proportion of the working capital belonging to the members themselves increased most satisfactorily to 26 per cent., the figures for the two previous years being 17·5 per cent. and 19·2 per cent. respectively. During the year under review the societies advanced 27·4 lakhs in loans for various agricultural purposes as compared with 40·8 and 43 lakhs in the two previous years. The rate of interest charged remained 15 per cent. as before. The amount lent for the purchase of seed was unusually large on account of the famine and scarcity in 1913-14. The total sum due from members at the commencement of the year was 46·7 lakhs, and despite increased repayments both of principal and interest the outstandings at the end of the year amounted to 44·4 lakhs principal and 4·1 lakhs interest. Arrears of collection rose from Rs. 9,805 to the high total of 17·6 lakhs. Only 12 out of the total number of agricultural primary societies were non-credit institutions. The latter comprised cattle insurance organizations and societies for the sale of dairy produce.

Urban societies.

159. Of the 188 non-agricultural primary societies existing at the end of the year eight were non-credit institutions, nine limited liability credit societies, and the remainder unlimited liability credit societies. The constitution of the last mentioned is practically the same as that of rural credit societies, and almost all are affiliated to central societies. In the year under report they suffered from the war which in some trades raised the cost of raw materials, for example wool and dyes, while in others, such as silk weaving, it killed the demand for the finished product. Overdues consequently remained large. The security of the societies, however, improved, and almost a quarter of the total capital of 2·71 lakhs was the property of the members themselves. The limited liability credit societies were mainly clerks' associations some of which were not very flourishing. Of the eight non-credit urban institutions seven were distributive stores and only one, the Bareilly carpenters' workshop, was concerned with production and sale. The latter is developing well and had a fairly prosperous year. The distributive businesses included stores serving mill employés and establishments catering for college students; two of the latter type were founded during the year. The total number of urban primary societies was three more than at the close of the previous year. Their membership rose from 5,755 to 6,270 and their working capital from 4·37 to 4·61 lakhs.

29.—Weather and Crops.

(For details see the annual Season and Crop Report for the year ending 30th June 1915, the "Agricultural Statistics of British India"—Volume I, the "Area and yield of certain principal crops in India," and "Prices and Wages in India.")

Character of the seasons.

160. As in the previous year May was a wet month. It was followed by great heat and absence of rain throughout the greater part of June. By

the beginning of July the monsoon currents had reached these provinces, and every part received sufficient rain for sowings. On the whole the rainfall of July was above normal, and in Bundelkhand the wetness of the ground rendered sowings in the heavier soils almost impossible. For the first three weeks of August the weather continued cloudy with abundant showers of rain, and with the exception of rice the crops were backward. A break followed, which proved of great benefit, and by the second week of September the prospects of all crops were favourable. Unfortunately the break was prolonged. West winds set in over the lower Doab and Bundelkhand, and the crops began to suffer from lack of moisture. A heavy downpour in September over the greater part of the provinces relieved the situation, but it was accompanied by high winds which considerably injured the cotton and juar. In the Benares, Fyzabad, and Gorakhpur divisions, which include the principal rice-growing tracts of the provinces, the September fall, however, was slight. These divisions had received an excess in the earlier months, but in September, when rainfall is especially needed to mature the late rice, the amount received was abnormally small. October was everywhere unusually dry, and the late rice crop consequently turned out indifferently. The early cessation of the rains which has characterized the past few years is leading to some disinclination to go to the expense of transplanting rice. • In the western districts on the other hand the rainfall in September, when the cotton was in flower, was above normal, and the cotton crops would have done better with a smaller amount of rain. Except in the eastern districts, where irrigation had to be resorted to, the moisture in the soil was adequate for rabi sowings. The earlier half of November was marked by excessive heat which killed off some of the young wheat. Rain was received in the western districts towards the end of January, and in the early part of February heavy falls occurred all over the provinces. The weather continued dull and cloudy throughout the greater part of February, and there were heavy showers in the second week of March. Taken as a whole the cold weather rainfall was considerably above normal, but it was unfortunately confined to the latter period of the season. By the middle of February there was promise of a bumper harvest, but the continuance of dull cloudy weather with constant showers disappointed expectations. Some damage was caused by hail, but as usual it was mainly local.

Cultivated area.

161. The total cultivated area was 35½ million acres, or 1·9 per cent. above the normal. This represented a rise of nearly 3 million acres on the cultivated area in the previous year—a year of partial famine. The area under kharif crops rose by 1·4 million acres to a total of 23·4 million acres, which exceeds the normal by 1 per cent. The shortage of food grains and of fodder, resulting from the famine, provided every inducement for putting down a large kharif area. This applied in particular to Bundelkhand where, but for the restrictions on sowings caused by the heavy rain, the area would probably have been larger. The disappointing rice harvests of recent years have led to some decline in kharif sowings in the eastern districts, which were on the whole below normal. The area under rabi crops amounted to 20 million acres and, though 22 per cent. above that of 1913-14, was almost exactly equal to the normal. The weather conditions favoured the cultivation of hot weather crops and the area under them showed a slight increase. The doubly cropped area was less than usual owing to the poor prices of oil seeds. Of the kharif crops, as might have been expected, those yielding fodder for cattle show great increases in area. Thus the figures for maize, juar, bajra, and small millets are much in excess even of those for the year preceding the drought, the rise for bajra being particularly large, as the heavy rain in July made it impossible in places to sow any other crop. For reasons already mentioned the rice area hardly increased, remaining 13 per cent. below normal for early rice and 18 per cent. for late rice. The area under cotton was 1½ million acres and only slightly less than the record area of the previous year. Prices at sowing time were still high, and but for the necessity of sowing a food crop the previous year's record would probably have been exceeded. The Allahabad

and Rohilkhand divisions showed increases, the Agra and Meerut divisions some falling off. The decline in the sugarcane area from 14 lakhs of acres to the normal 12 lakhs came as a surprise since the season was particularly favourable for sowings. But the poor quality of the previous crop had made seed very scarce. The decrease was most marked in the Rohilkhand division where it amounted to 50,000 acres. Poorer prices accounted for a slight diminution in the area under hemp, but the 170,352 acres it occupied still represents a large rise on the former average. Of rabi crops wheat and barley showed considerable increases, their areas amounting to 7·29 and 4·57 million acres respectively, or almost exactly those sown in 1912-13. The increases were distributed throughout the provinces except that in the Benares and Gorakhpur divisions there was a tendency, owing to the dryness of the seed bed, to sow barley for wheat. Sowings in Bundelkhand, though showing an improvement on the previous year, were still much below normal; marked preference was shown there for gram. Owing to the indifference of recent harvests the price of gram at sowing time was high, and in the province of Agra an unusually large area was sown; but in Oudh the area remained below normal, apparently on account of shortage of seed. The combined area totalled 5·3 million acres, or slightly less than that sown in 1912-13. Linseed occupied only 2½ lakhs of acres as compared with 5 lakhs of acres in 1912-13, the very poor prices current in consequence of the war being responsible for the almost complete absence of recovery. The rapeseed area rose by 36,000 acres to the unusually high figure of 187,031 acres. The area under poppy was 176,491 acres, a slight rise on that in 1913-14, but otherwise less than in former years. Among the minor crops the area under tobacco and potatoes continued to show a steady expansion, the principal centre of cultivation being the Farrukhabad district. The area under tobacco for the first time exceeded a 100,000 acres.

Irrigation.

162. The demand for water was naturally smaller than in the drought year preceding, and the irrigated area sank from 12·8 to 12 million acres. In all, the irrigated area amounted to 31 per cent. of the total cultivated, 18 per cent. being irrigated from wells, 7 per cent. from canals, and 6 per cent. from other sources. The tanks and jhils were full and the area served by them increased by 18 per cent. But for their supply of water much of the late rice would not have matured. Of the kharif area 11 per cent. was irrigated and of the rabi area 45 per cent. The irrigated wheat area in Oudh is growing steadily and reached 13 lakhs of acres in the year under review as against 8 lakhs of acres in 1912-13. The number of masonry wells actually in use was 535,127 as compared with 524,771 in the previous year, and during the year 19,662 new masonry wells were constructed, the famine having given an impetus to this work.

Outturn.

163. The crop outturns of the previous year were so abnormally poor that they afford no index of comparison. Compared with 1912-13 the yield of food crops in the year under report was on the whole greater, while that of commercial crops was inferior. Early rice on the whole produced a fair outturn, but the late rice crop was unsatisfactory. The millets did well in Oudh, but gave rather a poor yield in the eastern districts. The year was not favourable for a heavy cotton crop as the early part of the season was too wet and the storm in September injured the plants when in flower. The drought from September onwards affected the sugarcane. It was a fair crop in Oudh, but considerably below normal in the eastern districts. Of rabi crops wheat was disappointing. The rain in February and March, though it proved the salvation of the unirrigated crop, did considerable damage to the irrigated. The latter was badly rusted in places, and the grain was generally light and badly filled. Barley and gram suffered less, but fell short of the yield they had promised. The outturn of the former was equal to normal in the western districts, but inferior in the eastern. Gram was well above normal in Rohilkhand, but the Oudh returns brought down the general average. Arhar was possibly the best crop. The poppy crop was more successful than in previous years. After the beginning of July fodder was ample, and pasturage generally was good.

Prices.

164. At the commencement of the year the effects of the previous year's crop failure were being felt and in consequence prices were generally high. The prices of juar, common rice, and maize eased off somewhat when the kharif crop came on to the market, but soon rose again, and at the close of the year their rates in the Cawnpore mart had reached 10¾, 7, and 12 seers per rupee respectively, as compared with 10, 7½, and 11½ seers respectively, in June 1914. A corresponding fall took place in wheat, barley, and gram when the rabi was reaped. But the price of wheat again rose and in spite of comparatively little export trade remained above normal. In June 1914 the Cawnpore rate for wheat was 9¼ seers; it rose gradually to 6½ seers in February 1915, subesquently falling to 9 seers in April, and closed the year in June 1915 at 8½ seers. Barley and gram opened at 12 and 10¼ seers respectively, and after touching maximum rates of 9¾ and 8¾ seers in the cold weather finished the year respectively at 13½ and 12¾ seers. The explanation of the comparatively slight influence of the harvests on prices is that they were rapidly absorbed to replenish depleted stocks. In 1912-13, although the crops were not unusually good, a net export of food grains had taken place on a record scale. This was followed by the famine of 1913-14. In consequence stocks were extraordinarily low, and in 1914-15 there was a net import of food grains such as has only been exceeded in the famine year of 1896-97. The shrinkage of exports consequent on the opening of the war caused an abrupt drop in the price of raw cotton, which was severely felt in the western districts where it led to some difficulty in rent collection. For the same reason other commercial crops, such as oil seeds and hemp, which are ordinarily relied upon to meet the rent, with hardly an exception realized poor prices; and the high prices of food grains, much of which must be kept for home consumption, scarcely compensated the cultivator for these wholly unlooked-for losses of profit. The demand for labour continued ample, and wages showed no decline from the level to which they had risen in the previous year.

30—Horticulture.

(For details see the annual reports on the Horticultural Gardens at Lucknow and the Botanical Gardens at Saharanpur for the year ending 31st March 1915.)

Horticultural Gardens.

165. Work at the Government Horticultural Gardens at Lucknow made satisfactory progress. A large number of new varieties were introduced, and acclimatisation and other experimental work were continued with success. A considerable extension was made to the exotic plantation. No agents were employed for the sale of acclimatised seed, and the seed was retailed to the public direct. The public prefers the latter method and its adoption resulted in a much larger quantity being disposed of than in the past three years. The stoppage of the supply of flower seeds from Germany was also responsible for the receipt of extra orders. The surplus seed from the gardens was distributed gratis on application among various public institutions throughout the provinces. The receipts amounted to Rs. 12,016, and the expenditure to Rs. 29,213, the corresponding figures for the preceding year being Rs. 10,859 and Rs. 26,232 respectively. The actual cost of the gardens to Government was therefore Rs. 17,197, of which Rs. 4,930 represent the value of plants, seeds, and cut flowers supplied without charge. As usual many applications were received for trained gardeners, and the demand continued to exceed what the gardens can supply. The class for head gardeners consisted of eight students. A training class for arboriculture involving a five months' course was opened in April with ten students.

Botanical Gardens.

166. The work of the Government Botanical Gardens at Saharanpur was greatly hampered by the uncertainty and inadequacy of the water supply, for which the gardens at present depend on the local canal. Further progress was achieved in acclimatisation and research work of various descriptions, and a start was made with the thorough cataloguing of the plants in the gardens.

The sale of plants and seeds increased, but the total receipts fell from Rs. 23,948 to Rs. 20,418. The expenditure again rose, totalling Rs. 40,488, and the net cost of the gardens to Government increased from Rs. 14,345 to Rs. 20,070. The overseer class was composed of four students only, no additional students being taken during the year. This class has been in existence since 1908, but must now be closed, as a sufficient number of overseer gardeners has been secured for vacancies likely to occur in these provinces and the hope that students would be attracted from elsewhere has not been realized. The head gardener class continued as usual.

31—Forests.

(For details see the annual progress report on forest administration for the year ending 30th June, 1915, and the tables under the head "Forests," Part IV (b)—Statistics of British India.)

Area and demarcation.

167. Practically no change occurred in the total area of forests of all classes, which amounted, as in 1913-14, to 13,258 square miles. Settlement operations continued in the Naini Tal, Almora, and Garhwal districts, and despite cholera in May and June, which greatly retarded work, good progress was made with the permanent demarcation of the boundaries approved by the settlement officers. The total spent on new demarcation was Rs. 43,065, and on repairs Rs. 9,569. The expenditure incurred during the year in settlement operations was Rs. 1,29,485, and on survey Rs. 10,902.

Revenue.

168. The revenue realized during the year decreased by 7 lakhs to 29·83 lakhs. The chief item in the decrease was a fall of 6·7 lakhs in the receipts from timber due to the depressed state of the market and the poor prices obtainable. Similar causes accounted for a decline of 1·1 lakh under firewood, and of over half a lakh in the receipts from bamboos. The total decrease would have been larger but for the extra revenue, amounting to nearly a lakh, resulting from the introduction of the revised working plan in Gorakhpur. The poor state of the market is attributed partly to contractors being already supplied with stocks that they had been unable to get rid of during the famine, and partly to the existing financial conditions which made it difficult for purchasers to borrow money.

Expenditure.

169. The total expenditure again increased, rising from 20 lakhs in 1913-14 to 22·80 lakhs in the year under review. The increase was mostly due to the cost of sleeper treating operations in the Kumaun forest division, the expenditure under this head amounting to 3·46 lakhs, or 2 lakhs more than in 1913-14. The sum spent on organization and improvement in the same division again showed an increase, from 1·47 to 1·67 lakh, the extra money going in demarcation work, fire protection, and settlement. Further the expansion of resin tapping operations in the Naini Tal and Almora districts entailed an additional cost of Rs. 32,342. The charges under the heads of salaries, travelling allowances, and contingencies rose in each circle on account of the enlarged staff employed, the aggregate increase amounting to ·66 lakh. Apart from these items general expenditure decreased, more especially in the western circle where there were savings of about a quarter of a lakh each under the heads "timber, etc., extracted by Government agency" and "rent of leased forests;" the former was due to the smaller quantity of fuel required for the Naini Tal, Lansdowne, and Chakrata cantonments owing to troops being on service, and the latter to the reduction of the sum paid to the Raja of Tehri for his share of the profits of the leased deodar forests, the revenue from which had decreased.

Outturn

170. The total outturn of timber and fuel amounted to 16·4 million cubic feet as against 19¼ million cubic feet in the previous year. The decrease, which was an all-round one under all kinds of timber, was mainly due to the reasons already given for the diminution of revenue, but partly also to the inferior quality of the coupes of the year in certain districts and to fewer fellings of dead trees. The resin industry in the Kumaun hills produced 45,800 maunds of crude resin, an expansion of 3,700 maunds over the previous

year's yield, and the net profit for the year increased from Rs. 55,656 to Rs. 67,390. The year under report was the first year of working with the new plant at the Bhowali distillery. After preliminary adjustments its introduction resulted in a 50 per cent. increase in output and in a higher degree of excellence and uniformity in the quality of the turpentine and colophony produced. One of the chief improvements of the year was the erection of a sawmill adjoining the distillery at a total cost of Rs. 16,827. The mill turns out staves for barrels for packing the products, and worked most efficiently. The distillery has been placed under a separate whole-time manager, and the prospects are very promising as there is reason to anticipate both an increase in output and a rise in the prices obtainable for it. Another distillery was working at Kalsi, but operations there were conducted at a net loss of Rs. 436. This distillery is old, small, and out of date. It is not really wanted, and the question of closing it down is under consideration.

Breaches of forest rules.

171. Breaches of forest rules aggregated 4,390 in 1914-15 as against 3,535 in the previous year. In 436 cases the offenders were undetected, 3,773 were compounded under section 67 of the Forest Act, and 181 were taken into court. Of the cases decided in court about 83 per cent. ended in convictions. The decrease in the number of cases taken to court indicates that fewer serious offences occurred, and the increase in the total number of cases is attributed to greater vigilance and better supervision on the part of the staff. The great majority of the cases in the western and Kumaun circles were for unauthorised felling, but in the eastern circle 997 out of a total of 1,646 cases were for illicit grazing. The increase in the aggregate over that for 1913-14 was under these two heads. Cases of injury to the forests by fire decreased from 179 to 149, of which 12 were taken to court and 67 were classed as undetected.

Protection from fire.

172. The total area successfully protected against fire was 3,774 square miles as compared with 3,732 square miles in the previous year. The area systematically protected by cleared fire lines was 3,685 square miles, as against 3,617 square miles in 1913-14, and of this only 31½ square miles, or ·85 per cent., was burnt, the corresponding percentage in the preceding year being 2·4. In Garhwal protection by fire watchers only was attempted over an additional 124 square miles, the guard proving effectual for all but 3½ square miles. The total cost of fire protection was Rs. 82,079. The percentage of the protected portion to the total forest area rose from 81·3 to 81·6 in the western circle, and from 72·12 to 72·48 in the eastern circle. The area under regular protection in the Kumaun circle was 462 square miles, an increase of 62 square miles, and amounted to 17 per cent. of the total forest area. The season was on the whole favourable for fire prevention. In all 148 fires burning over 5 acres took place, and 22,355 acres were burnt. Of these one is attributed to lightning, three to railway engines, 11 to intentional firing with the object of obtaining new grass, and 12 to malicious incendiarism. The origin of 41 was not discovered, and the remainder were the result of accident or of carelessness by workmen and villagers. The worst fire occurred in Pilibhit, where 5,252 acres were burnt in consequence of the carelessness of a traveller. There was a fire of 1,358 acres in Kheri, and three of over 1,000 acres in Garhwal.

Grazing.

173. The income from grazing and fodder grass totalled Rs. 1,37,934, as against Rs. 1,44,940 in the previous year. The area open to all animals for grazing for the whole year decreased from 10,169 to 9,957 square miles. Of the remainder 972 square miles were only closed to camels, sheep, and goats. The number of cattle for which grazing was provided showed a diminution. This was partly due to cattle disease in the hills, partly to the decrease in the number of Bhotias passing through from Tibet with sheep and goats, and partly to the fact that in the previous year more cattle had been allowed to graze in the forests on account of the fodder famine.

District forests.

174. The protected forests of the Almora, Garhwal, and Naini Tal districts are in the course of settlement. Of the gross area of 9,063 square miles 3,292 square miles have been placed under the control of the forest department and the remainder will be left as undemarcated protected forests under the control of the Deputy Commissioners. Of the portion transferred

to the forest department 139 square miles were reserved during the year under report, and the balance is to be reserved during the ensuing year. These district forests are represented by the Kumaun forest circle, and the statistics relating to them have been included in the provincial figures quoted in the preceding paragraphs. The three existing forest divisions of the circle were split up into five during the year. The working plans for these divisions have not yet been completed. The whole work of the circle was again dominated by the sleeper undertaking. The poor quality of local sawyers, the presence of much twisted fibre, and the refusal of the railways to accept sleepers containing the core of a tree have greatly reduced the average number of fit sleepers obtainable per tree. This fact combined with the partial failure to attract contractors, which was largely due to losses incurred on rejected sleepers, have rendered it impossible to deliver the stipulated 10½ lakhs of sleepers within the four years of the contract with the state railways. The number of sleepers inspected during the year was 215,581, and the number passed 92,631. The receipts for the year for the Kumaun circle totalled 1·84 lakhs, and the charges 8·06 lakhs, resulting in a deficit of 6·22 lakhs. Of the deficit the sleeper treating works were responsible for 3·25 lakhs, settlement operations for 1·30 lakhs, and the remainder was excess of ordinary expenditure over revenue. The sleeper works deficit, however, was really only Rs. 95,000, as 2·30 lakhs were actually due from the railways, and if the increase in the value of stocks and similar items be taken into consideration, as set out in the profit and loss account, the net result of the sleeper operations was a profit of Rs. 30,454. Similar considerations reduce the true deficit for the circle to 3·52 lakhs, or nearly half a lakh more than in 1913-14. The capital expenditure on the sleeper works during the year was Rs. 96,247. During the year a large iron girder bridge was constructed over the Gaula river on the Paharpani-Bhabar road.

General.

175. The working plans for several divisions were in process of revision during the year. The year was not a good one for natural reproduction from seed. Sal seeded well in many places, but storms blew down the seed before it was mature. Artificial reproduction by plantations met with varying success in different localities. Experiments were in progress for ascertaining the causes of twisted fibre in chir trees, and for determining the shrinkage in chir sleepers after sawing and the influence of the season of sawing on the cracking of the timber. Experiments were also continued in resin tapping, timber seasoning, and the regeneration of sal and chir. The sowing of potatoes and soya beans on much impoverished areas proved a failure. Fixation work on the Cheena slopes progressed satisfactorily and is nearing completion. The experimental introduction of English brown trout into the Kumaun streams and lakes was continued, and the observation of fry in the Bhowali-Ratighat stream affords ground for believing that natural breeding has been successfully accomplished. The Kashmir deer obtained in the previous year remained in good condition, but showed little sign of really becoming wild. A large herd, of wild elephants from Nepal did considerable damage in the Haldwani forest division. A herd of 13 also entered the Bahraich district. A contract for 80,000 cubic feet of fir wood for match splints was given to the North India Timber Company, Limited, but work was stopped after only 44 trees had been felled because the cost of extraction proved higher than anticipated. There appears indeed to be little chance of success unless the company erect a splint factory at Chakrata and develop mechanical means of extraction. The Chaubattia fruit garden of 80 acres and the Sitoli orchard of five acres were transferred to the agricultural department. The ordnance department handed over its babul plantations of 1,394 acres at Kalpi and Piprayan to the United Provinces Government, and these are now managed by the provincial forest department. During the year the reorganization of the imperial and provincial forest services was sanctioned by the Secretary of State. Ten posts were added to the cadre of the former and 18 to that of the latter. The permanent staff was also augmented by a number of forest guards. The number of students admitted to the provincial forest training class was 33, but five were sent down. The remaining 28 all obtained certificates.

32—Mines and Quarries.

(For details see the tables under "Mineral production" in Part I—Statistics of British India.)

Mines.

176. No regular mines were worked during the year 1914-15. Small quantities of gold were washed in the Naini Tal, Bijnor, and Garhwal districts to a total value of about Rs. 400. Iron ores valued at nearly Rs. 400 were extracted in the Garhwal and Jhansi districts, and the latter district also produced a very small quantity of copper. Steatite was worked in Jhansi to the value of Rs. 1,375 and of a total weight of 22 tons.

Quarries.

177. In the Almora district 36,956 slates were quarried weighing about 1,240 tons and worth Rs. 10,937. The Mirzapur quarries produced 1,97,699 tons of stone valued at Rs. 3,28,606, or 43,000 tons more than in the previous year. The Naini Tal, Garhwal, and Dehra Dun districts furnished 681 tons of limestone worth Rs. 2,635, and 120 tons of soapstone valued at Rs. 11,160 were obtained from the Hamirpur district. Building stone to the value of Rs. 9,851 and weighing 2,746 tons was also worked in the Banda district.

33—Manufactures.

(For details see the tables in Parts I and II—Statistics of British India.)

Cotton.

178. Cotton ginning and pressing factories worked by mechanical power increased from 108 to 117, and the number of workmen employed from 13,204 to 13,604. The number of cotton mills on the other hand fell from 17 to 16, and 15,386 operatives, 5,075 looms, and 457,996 spindles were employed in them as against 15,341 operatives, 4,771 looms, and 454,854 spindles in the previous year.

Sugar.

179. Seven sugar factories employing 1,822 workmen were running during the year as compared with 6 factories employing 1,368 workmen in the preceding year. All the factories use mechanical power. Prices generally advanced on account of the diversion of Java sugar to Europe.

Indigo.

180. Active indigo factories employing 50 men or over totalled 19. The total number of persons employed fell from 5,347 to 3,959.

Lac.

181. The number of lac factories at work increased from 5 to 19, all being in the Mirzapur district. The number of hands employed rose from 930 to 1,620, of which the principal factory alone accounted for 550.

Tanneries.

182. Two new tanneries were started during the year at Agra and Allahabad respectively, and in all 7 were at work employing 4,137 persons as against 5 employing 3,066 persons in 1913-14. Special attention is being directed to this industry and it is hoped that with the provision of new tannin substances the tanning trade of the provinces will develop.

Miscellaneous.

183. Other factories at work during the year comprised one woollen mill, one paper mill, 2 breweries, 8 iron and brass foundries, 4 flour mills, one oil mill, 3 dairies, 10 printing presses, 3 glass factories, and 26 tile factories. There were also 55 miscellaneous unclassified concerns employing 25,282 hands, 30 of these employing 21,509 hands being Government or municipal factories or railway workshops. In the previous year miscellaneous concerns numbered 51 with 22,399 employés. The total number of persons working in factories of all kinds rose from 72,065 to 76,402. Factories employing fewer than 50 operatives have not been included in any of the figures given. A good deal of interest is being taken in the possibilities of the oil-pressing industry in these provinces and proposals are on foot for the establishment of large mills. Matches have been produced by the North India Timber Company, Limited, at Bareilly. The quality was excellent, but the proprietors found themselves unable to meet Japanese competition in price and the factory has been temporarily closed down. A central emporium is to be opened for the display and sale of the productions of village industries. The lending library of technical books maintained at the office of the Director of Industries was freely patronised.

184. The total expenditure on the 8 aided weaving schools was Rs. 44,286 of which Rs. 21,065 was contributed by Government. The number of scholars on the rolls on the 31st March 1915 aggregated 172. All the aided weaving schools are now in the charge of trained superintendents and a definite curriculum has been put into force. Demonstrations of improved looms and hosiery machines were given at district exhibitions as in previous years. Hosiery classes have been started at Moradabad and Mirzapur with the object mainly of providing a quickly learned trade for workers whose ordinary vocations have been curtailed owing to the war. There are signs that hosiery manufacture may establish itself as a cottage industry. The dyeing school founded at Cawnpore in July 1914 has done good work and gave demonstrations at several fairs and exhibitions. Weaving schools.

185. Four joint stock companies with an authorised capital of 4·7 lakhs were registered during the year. They consisted of a publishing company, an investment company, a company for estate management, and one for timber trading. Joint stock companies.

34—Trade.

(For details see the annual reports on Inland and Foreign Trade for the year ending 31st March 1915, and the accounts of trade carried by rail and river in India.)

186. The following additions were made to the railway system of the provinces during the year :— Additions to the railway system.

(a) Rohilkhand and Kumaun Railway.—The Dudwa-Gauri-Phanta extension of the Lucknow-Bareilly section, 16 miles in length, was opened for public traffic from the 15th April 1914.

(b) Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway.—The Hamirpur Road-Khairada section of the Cawnpore-Banda branch, 43¼ miles in length, was opened for public traffic from the 20th July 1914.

(c) Dholpur-Bari Light Railway.—The Baseri-Tantpur section from Bagthar to Tantpur in the Agra district was opened on 16th November 1914.

187. In consequence of short crops in these provinces the volume of the external rail-borne traffic in 1913-14 had declined by 17 million maunds or 11 per cent. In the year under report it decreased further by 15 million maunds or 10·9 per cent. Nearly the whole of the decrease occurred in the export trade, the imports remaining practically at the same high level as in the preceding year. Total rail-borne traffic.

188. Imports decreased slightly from 7,98,81,018 to 7,96,62,611 maunds in weight and by 403 lakhs in value. Imports of grains from the Punjab fell off by 35 lakhs of maunds, of fodder by 5·6 lakhs of maunds, and of mineral substances, chiefly marble and stone, by 7·9 lakhs of maunds. Cotton goods, metals, and sugar from the chief seaports were also received in smaller quantities. On the other hand imports of grains from Calcutta, chiefly Burma rice, rose by 27½ lakhs of maunds, and of coal and coke and unrefined sugar from Bihar and Orissa by over 35 lakhs of maunds. Rather larger supplies, chiefly of grains, were obtained from the Bombay Presidency, and increases were also noticeable in the amounts of coal and coke and of gunny bags and cloth coming from Bengal, and of grains and salt from Rajputana and Central India. The total import of coal and coke rose by 28 lakhs of maunds to 352 lakhs of maunds, the bulk of the increase occurring under imports for railway purposes. The war caused a decline in the import of foreign cotton piece-goods and dyes. The total decrease under cotton goods was 1,86,091 maunds or 12·3 per cent., but this was partly due to the continuance of high prices of food grains. The total imports of grain and pulse remained practically constant at 187 lakhs of maunds, but those of salt, saltpetre, and raw wool rose appreciably, the supplies being drawn from Imports.

within India. The figures in lakhs of maunds for the total import of metals, sugar, and salt were 18·4, 25·3, and 61·7 respectively as compared with 25, 35·2, and 55·2 respectively in 1913-14.

Exports.

189. The large decrease of 324 lakhs of maunds in exports in the previous year was followed by a further fall of 147 lakhs of maunds, the total exports amounting to 4,29,14,695 maunds. The value diminished by 820 lakhs. Export to Calcutta, Bombay, and Karachi showed drops of 75, 34½ and 60 lakhs of maunds respectively, chiefly under grains and oil seeds, and to Bombay also under raw cotton. Owing chiefly to the restricted despatch of grains the export trade with other places also declined. The Punjab with a rise of 32 lakhs of maunds and Rajputana and Central India with one of 4 lakhs of maunds were, however, exceptions. The total export of grain and pulse, which in 1912-13 had amounted to 529½ lakhs of maunds, again showed a decrease, from 209 to 98 lakhs of maunds. The aggregate figures for oil seeds represent a fall from 116 to 85 lakhs of maunds. Cotton seed showed a large increase, but this was more than counterbalanced by decreases under linseed and rapeseed. The figures in lakhs of maunds for the total export of raw cotton, hemp, hides and skins, and sugar were 18·9, 6·4, 6·1, and 65·5 respectively as against 21·2, 9·3, 6·8, and 67·7 respectively in 1913-14.

Trade of Cawnpore.

190. Imports into Cawnpore city rose from 85 to 99 lakhs of maunds, mainly in consequence of larger receipts of coal and coke, grains, and salt. The city's exports, however, fell from 46 to 42 lakhs of maunds, the decline being most marked under grains and oilseeds.

Internal rail-borne traffic.

191. The volume of internal rail-borne trade increased from 288 to 370 lakhs of maunds. The expansion was due to the fact that the yield of the rabi crops was generally good in the eastern districts and relatively inferior in the rest of the province, while the converse was the case with the kharif crops, thus giving rise to a brisk internal movement of trade. In lakhs of maunds the chief increases were grain and pulse 61·4 to 117, minerals (chiefly marble and stone) 36·9 to 55, raw cotton 4·9 to 10·8, and unrefined sugar 30·1 to 32·9. Wood showed a decrease from 38 to 32·9 lakhs of maunds, and fodder from 22·8 to 19·9 lakhs of maunds. A reduction of imports, chiefly of fodder, was recorded in the middle doab which suffered from famine in the preceding year. Otherwise the increase both in imports and exports was almost general.

River-borne traffic.

192. The river-borne traffic between these provinces and Calcutta amounted to 1,10,444 maunds imports and 21,901 maunds exports. These totals fall short of those of the previous year by 97,225 maunds imports, chiefly under cotton goods, metals, and salt, and by 23,115 maunds exports under grains and oil seeds.

Foreign Trade.

Tibet.

193. Imports from Tibet rose in weight from 62,354 to 75,381 maunds and in value from 6·90 to 9·53 lakhs. These figures are better than those for any of the preceding eight years. Exports decreased in weight by 4,340 maunds to 50,632 maunds, but their value rose from 4·43 to 5·22 lakhs. All the chief articles of import—borax, salt, and wool—show increases, the import of wool being the highest on record. Exports of cotton goods and sugar hardly varied, but those of grains fell off owing to the high prices prevalent in these provinces. Exports of cash showed a notable increase.

Nepal.

194. Imports from Nepal increased in weight from 17·57 to 19·01 lakhs of maunds and in value from 122·3 to 129·6 lakhs of rupees. Exports fell slightly to 3,66,786 maunds by weight and 58·86 lakhs in value, but by both criteria the decline was less than 1½ per cent. The abnormally dear prices in these provinces caused a substantially enlarged import of grain, and increases were noticeable in the imports of raw fibrous products, hides and skins, spices, and catechu. Timber other than teak also showed some improvement. On the other hand the imports of oil seeds and ghi decreased. Exports to Nepal showed an advance under the heads of yarn and Indian piece-goods, but a decline under European piece-goods, salt, and metals.

35—Buildings and roads.

(For details see the annual administration report of the Public Works department, Buildings and Roads branch, for the year ending 31st March 1915.)

Revenue and expenditure.

195. The revenue realized during the year by the Buildings and Roads branch of the Public Works department amounted to 3·66 lakhs, of which 3·29 lakhs were provincial. The actual expenditure totalled 136½ lakhs, of which 6·9 lakhs were for imperial works, 8 lakhs for famine relief, 70·6 lakhs for provincial works, 39·7 lakhs for excluded local and 11¼ lakhs for contribution works.

Imperial buildings.

196. The Forest Research Institute at Dehra Dun, the Aerological Observatory at Agra, and the new post office at Allahabad were completed, and good progress was made with the Postal Administrative offices at Lucknow and the post office at Bareilly, both of which are nearly finished. Several works were also undertaken in connection with the bacteriological laboratory at Muktesar and the new bacteriological laboratory that is to be built at Bareilly.

Provincial and local buildings.

197. A new wing was added to Government House, Lucknow, to provide increased accommodation. The construction of the Commissioner's residence at Meerut was well advanced, and building was commenced for the combined office for the Sanitary Engineer and the Consulting Architect at Allahabad The new tahsil at Sagri in the Azamgarh district was practically completed. Work on the district offices at Basti was suspended for an alteration of the plans. The restoration of the raised causeway to the east of Akbar's mausoleum at Sikandra had to be postponed owing to want of funds, but the conservation of Miriam's tomb at the same place was completed, and progress was made with improvements, including the removal of modern excrescences, at the Agra Jama Masjid. Over 3¼ lakhs were spent during the year on the construction of educational buildings, of which the more important included high schools at Etah, Hardoi, Shahjahanpur, and Pilibhit, hostels and subsidiary buildings for high schools at Saharanpur, Unao, and Allahabad, and two new wings for the school of Arts and Crafts at Lucknow. Of buildings in process of construction of purposes of law and justice the most prominent was the new High Court at Allahabad, the work on which proceeded at a very satisfactory rate. The civil courts at Budaun were almost ready and courts for the subordinate judge and munsif were begun at Unao. The foundation stone of the new civil courts at Cawnpore was laid by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor in November 1914, but work in 1914-15 was confined to the collection of materials. Of the 19 police buildings under construction during the year, 12 were completed and the remainder were well in hand. The only miscellaneous works of note completed during the year were residences for the Executive Engineers of Agra and Gonda and a laboratory for veterinary research at Lucknow. The buildings in progress under the head of contribution works comprised residences for the professors of La Martinière College and a hostel for lady students of the Medical College at Lucknow, and the Law library, the two Law hostels, and the All-India Minto Memorial Pillar at Allahabad. The style of architecture adopted for the Law library and hostels is in keeping with that of the Senate Hall and the other University buildings designed by Sir Swinton Jacob.

Communications

198. The total lengths of metalled and unmetalled roads maintained by the Public Works department were 6,939 and 1,572 miles respectively. These figures include 71 miles of new metalled roads constructed by the department during the year. Local authorities maintained 85 miles of metalled roads and 22,771 miles of unmetalled roads. In the Saharanpur district the conversion of the old railway bridge over the Jumna into a road suitable for cart traffic was taken in hand with the object of improving communications between these provinces and the Punjab via Saharanpur and Ambala. Two reinforced concrete bridges with single spans of 200 feet

and 317 feet respectively were undertaken in the Tarai and Bhabar Government estates. The latter is over the Gaula river at Kathgodam, and though primarily an aqueduct also carries a six feet wide road platform. Reinforced concrete bridges were also in process of construction over the Suswa river in the Dehra Dun district and the Esan nadi at Tirwa in the Fatehgarh district. The seven span girder bridge over the Garrah river at Rajghat in the Shahjahanpur district was completed, and was opened for traffic by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor on the 31st March, 1915. A number of suspension bridges were erected in the Almora district, and a girder bridge and two screw pile bridges in the Gorakhpur district. The pontoon bridge over the Ganges at Rajghat in the Benares district was constructed at a cost of two lakhs. Apart from bridging, important work on roads was in progress in the Naini Tal, Cawnpore, Mainpuri, Etawah, Budaun, Moradabad, Unao, Sitapur, Shahjahanpur, Mirzapur, Bahraich, and Gorakhpur districts.

Navigation works.

199. A navigable channel of a minimum depth of three to four feet was maintained in the Ganges river below Allahabad, the total length under operations being 343 miles. Similar work was carried out in the Gogra river in the Azamgarh and Ballia districts for a length of 95 miles.

Electric light and power.

200. Licences for the supply of energy for public purposes in Lucknow and Allahabad have been granted to Messrs. Crompton & Co., and every endeavour is being made to float a company for this object. The Mussooree hydro-electric scheme continued to extend rapidly, the chief addition being the extra load due to the bulk supply to Dehra Dun. The scheme for the provision of the latter was completed and has worked satisfactorily. New plant is being installed at Mussooree, and ample power will be available for the aerial ropeway to Dehra Dun should this project be sanctioned. The scheme for the provision of lights and fans in the Cawnpore Memorial Church has been approved by the Secretary of State and is in process of execution by a local firm. The substitution of new machinery for the defective plant at the Muktesar laboratory has been delayed by the war. Electric installations were either undertaken or completed in a number of public buildings at Agra, Lucknow, and Allahabad, and various lighting and pumping projects, including a hydro-electric scheme for Naini Tal, were in course of preparation.

Sanitary works.

201. The Sanitary Engineer's circle continued to be very heavily worked. Exclusive of miscellaneous estimates for well boring 15 schemes were finally sanctioned and 11 others prepared; 19 were in course of preparation, and work on about 50 more had to be held over for want of establishment. Those finally sanctioned involved an outlay of over 18 lakhs, the chief items being nearly 7 lakhs for main drains and a pumping station at Allahabad, 4 lakhs for the Muttra water-works, two projects in connection with the improvement of the Benares water-works costing altogether 1·35 lakh, plans for Ballia main drainage and street drains estimated jointly at a lakh and a quarter, over a lakh for the Meerut anti-malarial scheme, and about ¾ lakh each for the Dehra and Dhampur drainage schemes. The quality of the water supplied at the eight large water-works stations on the whole continued excellent. The only serious accidents occurred at Benares and Allahabad. Considerable improvements and extensions were carried out during the year to the water-works at Agra, Lucknow, and Allahabad, and the construction of the waste meter system at Benares was almost completed. No small measure of success was achieved with tube well experiments. Trial bores with small pipes proved so uniformly successful in allocating the water-bearing sand required that it has been decided to give up sinking them and to sink only full size 15 inch bores. Fifteen such tubes were put down in various stations with excellent results. One of the three trial borings sunk in the previous year at Muttra proved successful; the pumping station for the new waterworks has been located close by and three other suction wells 400 feet apart have been begun. Drainage works were under construction at Benares, Cawnpore, Allahabad, Fyzabad, Landour, Muttra, Dehra Dun, and Bahraich.

Arboriculture.

202. During the year new trees were planted along 75½ miles of road, as against 87 miles in the previous year, and the total length of the avenues maintained was 1,632 miles, or a decrease of 122 miles. The receipts from arboricultural operations rose from Rs. 26,649 to Rs. 29,872, and the expenditure fell from Rs. 84,094 to Rs. 76,159.

Private works.

203. In addition to the contribution works already mentioned Rs. 3,60,596 were received from private individuals and expended on the building of *dharmsalas*, wells, dispensaries, etc.

General.

204. A fourth circle of superintendence was constituted during the year, necessitating the re-arrangement of the three original Superintending Engineers' circles. The number of divisional charges was similarly increased from 15 to 16. The question of an increased engineer establishment was under review during the year and the sanction of the Secretary of State was received to a cadre strength of 55. The revision of the cadres of subordinates was also under consideration.

36.—Canals.

(For details see the annual administration report of the Public Works department, Irrigation branch, for the year ending 31st March, 1915.)

Outlay and construction.

205. The capital expenditure on canals during the year was 27 lakhs, bringing the total capital outlay up to March 31st, 1915 to 1,246½ lakhs. Of the year's expenditure 13·4 lakhs were spent on protective works, 12 lakhs on productive works, and the remainder on minor works. The chief protective works concerned were the Ghaggar and Ghori canals in the Mirzapur district, the Majhgawan tank in the Hamirpur district, the Barwar lake and canal in the Jhansi district, and the Gangao dam on the Ken river. The capital outlay on productive works was mainly incurred on the construction of the permanent weir for the Ganges canal at Hardwar and on the Gorai canal in the Mirzapur district. Apart from the expenditure of about ¼ lakh on the Rohilkhand canals, the minor works dealt with consisted mostly of various tank schemes in Bundelkhand. The Sukhra tank and canal in the Mirzapur district were completed before the rains of 1914.

Works proposed.

206. The Belan canal estimate was still delayed pending a settlement with the Rewah Darbar regarding the land to be traversed by the canal in that state. The Paisuni canal scheme and the project for extending the Dhasan canal across the Barma river to a precarious tract of the Hamirpur district were also still under discussion. The latter includes the addition of a storage reservoir on the Dhasan river at Kurra. Other proposed protective works comprised extra reservoirs on the Betwa and Ken canals and the Pachwara lake system. The last named consists of a series of tanks designed to protect a precarious tract in the Jhansi district. The chief productive work under consideration was the Sarda-Kichha feeder project. This consists of a canal on practically the same alignment as the Sarda-Ganges feeder, and has been prepared as an alternative to the latter scheme owing to the difficulties inherent in the latter and to the persistent demand for irrigation in Oudh. The feeder would traverse the Tarai and, in addition to supplementing the unreliable supplies from the Rohilkhand canals, would introduce irrigation into portions of the Shahjahanpur, Bareilly, Pilibhit, and Hardoi districts where no facilities at present exist. A further proposal under investigation includes the taking out of a large branch canal near the head of the feeder, which, running eastwards and dividing into two smaller branches north and south of the Gumti river, would secure irrigation for Oudh as far as Lucknow in the north and Sultanpur and Partabgarh in the south. The Sarda-Kichha feeder project, including head works, has been prepared and submitted to the Government of India for sanction. The estimated cost is two crores, and the annual irrigated area anticipated some 345,000 acres. A net return of about 6·3 per cent. is expected. Plans and estimate were

also under preparation for a weir across the Kho river with the object of increasing irrigation from the Bijnor canals.

Surveys.

207. The survey of the Kurra reservoir alluded to above was completed, and a site for the Urmel reservoir, also in the Hamirpur district, was selected and surveyed. The surveys for a canal from the Urmel river and for the new reservoir on the Betwa river were in hand. Two special survey divisions were employed during the winter on surveying the Oudh canals in connection with the Sarda-Kichha feeder project. Survey parties were employed on famine projects in the Bundelkhand districts, and a large number of embankment schemes were prepared in readiness to be taken up on the occurrence of the next famine.

Financial results.

208. The gross receipts from canals amounted to 123·11 lakhs as against 116·91 lakhs in 1913-14, and the working expenses to 38·82 lakhs as against 38·06 lakhs. The net revenue thus rose from 78·85 to 84·29 lakhs. The increase was due to the larger area irrigated from productive canals and minor works. The gross receipts from protective canals declined by nearly 2 lakhs, mainly in consequence of considerable remissions granted on irrigated areas which did not mature owing to the supply of water in the reservoirs running short. The net revenue from protective canals was represented by a deficit of 2·1 lakhs, which the payment of interest charges increased to a loss of 8·7 lakhs, or 2 lakhs worse than in the previous year. The aggregate profit from all canals, after deducting interest charges from net revenue, rose by 3·7 lakhs to 45·7 lakhs. The return on total capital outlay represented by the net revenue was +8·68 and +2·66 per cent. respectively for productive and minor works and —4·42 per cent. for protective canals. It is anticipated that the latter will be enabled to show a positive return when additional storage is provided for the Ken, Betwa, and Dhasan canals. Under the terms of the provincial contract the Local Government retains the direct revenue from the major productive and minor works, while meeting all charges for the latter and providing for all outlay on improvements and maintenance, as well as paying interest on capital, for the former. In 1914-15 the net profit from major productive works, after paying interest charges, amounted to 37·28 lakhs as against 32·67 lakhs in the previous year, and the total sum actually credited to the revenues of the province—after incorporating the results from minor works and deducting 2·43 lakhs indirect charges for major works—increased by 4·48 lakhs to 31·48 lakhs.

Assessments.

209. The gross revenue assessed amounted to 124·7 lakhs as compared with 125·1 lakhs in 1913-14.

Mileage of canals.

210. The total length of channels in operation at the close of the year had increased by 88 miles to 15,744 miles.

37.—Irrigation.

Irrigated area.

211. The total area irrigated under the Public Works department fell by 182,631 acres to 3,267,272 acres. The decrease was simply the consequence of the abnormally large area irrigated in the previous year on account of the drought, and the 1914-15 total actually exceeded the average for the three previous years by 403,963 acres. The *kharif* season was normal and the water supply in the canals was in general sufficient to meet the demand. The kharif area irrigated declined from 1,479,190 to 1,445,752 acres. Supplies during the rabi season were sufficient on all canals except the Upper Ganges in December and the Lower Ganges at the beginning of January, after which date the rainfall was ample. The supplies in some of the Bundelkhand reservoirs, however, gave out prematurely. The rabi area irrigated decreased from 1,970,713 to 1,821,520 acres. The area not matured amounted to 10,517 acres, of which about two-thirds was rabi, as compared with 127,682 acres in the preceding year. Very heavy floods occurred in the Ganges and Jumna rivers in September, 1914, but fortunately the canal head works were comparatively little damaged.

Crops irrigated.

212. The estimated value of the crops raised with the aid of canal irrigation was 1,546½ lakhs as against 1,589¾ lakhs in 1913-14, but the average value per acre rose from Rs. 46·1 to Rs. 47·33. The principal crops irrigated were :—Sugarcane, 271,231 acres; rice, 237,827 acres; millet, 84,560 acres; maize, 139,044 acres; cotton 533,414 acres; wheat, 811,947 acres; barley, 148,581 acres; gram, 86,514 acres; and peas, 123,851 acres. In comparison with the previous year the figures for rice, cotton, wheat, and gram show increases of about 37, 4½, 6, and 19½ per cent. respectively, and those for sugarcane, millet, and peas decreases of about 16, 48½, and 38 per cent. respectively, while the totals for maize and barley remained practically unaltered. The rice and cotton areas are the highest on record.

CHAPTER V.—REVENUE AND FINANCE.

(a)—IMPERIAL REVENUE AND FINANCE.

38—Gross revenue.

(For details see the accounts for the year 1914-15, *and the tables in Part IV, (a) and (b),—Statistics of British India.)*

213. The imperial share of the gross revenue realized amounted to Rs. 4,57,15,552 as compared with Rs. 4,35,10,431 in the year 1913-14.

39—Land revenue.

214. The gross land revenue realized was Rs. 6,21,88,235, of which the imperial share was Rs. 3,74,50,156. The corresponding figures for the previous year were Rs. 5,90,78,394 and Rs. 3,56,92,669, respectively.

40—Canal revenue.

215. The gross direct revenue accruing from canals increased from Rs. 99,01,581 in 1913-14 to Rs. 1,04,44,653 in the year under review. The imperial share decreased from Rs. 4,44,386 to Rs. 2,68,703.

41—Excise.

(For details see the annual report on the administration of Excise for the year ending 31*st March* 1915, *and the tables under the head "Excise," Part IV (b)—Statistics of British India.)*

Receipts. 216. The real receipts from excise declined from 131·61 to 124·28 lakhs, but the total exceeded that of any previous year except 1913-14. The decrease occurred chiefly under the head of duty on country spirit, and was entirely owing to the heavy fall in consumption which set in with the failure of the 1913-14 harvests and was then intensified and prolonged by the economic dislocation following the outbreak of war. The total charges increased from 4·64 to 4·78 lakhs. One quarter of the net income from excise, after deducting charges from receipts, is credited to the imperial revenues.

Collections. 217. The gross demand for the year was 126·98 lakhs of which 125·41 lakhs, or 98·8 per cent., were collected. The chief item unrealized was Rs. 37,433 due from the drugs farmer in Allahabad. Owing to his mismanagement his contract, which was for the years 1913—1916, has been cancelled, and his estate is to be taken under the Court of Wards. It is anticipated that the arrears will eventually be recovered. Rs. 29,014 was still due from the defaulting contractor of Bareilly for the years 1907—1909, and another large item outstanding was Rs. 22,995 due from the Old Brewery, Mussooree, on account of duty on malt liquor. At Benares, where the city trade was specially affected by the depression resulting from the famine and the war, a good deal of difficulty was experienced in collecting licence fees and Rs. 27,834 remained overdue. Rs. 16,446 of this were suspended and the question of remitting part of it is under consideration. The Naini Tal, Budaun, and Sitapur districts also showed considerable outstanding balances, aggregating Rs. 18,924.

Country spirit. 218. The total receipts from country spirit fell from 87·47 to 78·88 lakhs, the fall being explained by a further and large decrease in consumption amounting to 18·2 per cent. The incidence of total revenue per proof gallon in the distillery area rose from Rs. 5-4-9 to Rs. 5-13-5, and of licence fees per proof gallon from Re. 1-15-9 to Rs. 2-7-1. In spite of unpromising agricultural conditions at the time of the settlements in January and February 1914 the demand from licence fees in the distillery area rose from 32·05 to 32·36 lakhs and the actual collections from 32·04 to 32·10 lakhs. Still-head duty was not

raised during the year on account of the famine of 1913-14, but scope for enhancement clearly existed and enhancements were sanctioned in 33 districts to take effect from the 1st April 1915. The total yield from still-head duty declined from 53·59 to 44·96 lakhs, but the average incidence per gallon increased from Rs. 3-5-0 to Rs. 3-6-4, and the enhancements sanctioned should raise it to Rs. 4. The consumption of country spirit for the year fell from 1,618,000 to 1,324,000 proof gallons. The fall was practically universal and was most marked in the first three quarters of the year. The consumption of the 25° U. P. spirit decreased by 17 per cent. and that of the weaker 50°U. P. spirit by 27 per cent. Very little demand exists for the latter outside Bundelkhand. As in the previous year, there were five licensed private distilleries, viz. those at Cawnpore (two), Lucknow, Rosa, and Saharanpur. The completion of the new private distillery at Babhnauli in the Gorakhpur district has been indefinitely delayed by the war. Fourteen public distilleries continued in operation during the year, but it was decided to close those at Gorakhpur, Farrukhabad, and Sultanpur from the 1st April 1915; that at Gorakhpur on the introduction of the contract system, and the other two because the buildings were inadequate. Non-contract bonded warehouses have been opened at Farrukhabad, and at Sultanpur and Musafirkhana in the Sultanpur district. The installation of improved plant at the Allahabad and Fyzabad distilleries was hindered by the war. The prices of both *shira* and *mahwa* rose considerably, and in consequence at ten out of the 14 public distilleries wholesale prices underwent a corresponding increase. The number of country spirit retail shops was reduced by 32 in the distillery area and in the outstill area by three. The total number in existence during the year was 4,646, or one shop to 10,155 persons, but a further 182 shops were selected to be closed from the end of the year.

Contract supply system.

219. The contract supply system continued to work well in the 22 districts in which it was in force. No extension of the system was made during the year, but arrangements were carried out for its application to the Gorakhpur and Azamgarh districts in the ensuing year.

Outstill area.

220. As in the case of distillery area shops, notwithstanding the adverse agricultural conditions of 1913-14, licence fees for outstills showed a slight increase, from Rs. 1,65,120 to Rs. 1,65,552. Outstills only remain in parts of ten districts.

Hemp drugs.

221. Licence fees for the vend of hemp drugs fell by 1·1 per cent. to Rs. 17,57,000. The decrease, Rs. 20,000, was, however, more than accounted for by the losses due to the resignation of contracts in consequence of the enhancement of the duty on *baluchar ganja* from Rs. 11 to Rs. 12 a seer, which took effect from the beginning of the year under review. The contracts at Cawnpore and Lucknow were resigned for this reason. That at Benares was resigned but taken up again at an enhanced rate, while at Allahabad, as already noted, the contract was cancelled and resettled. These four districts exhibited the largest falls. Considerable increases occurred in the Azamgarh, Ballia, Rae Bareli, Sitapur, Budaun, and Saharanpur districts. In 16 districts the hemp drugs contracts expired on the 31st March 1915, and settlements for the succeeding triennium were arranged during the year under review. Two of these districts were settled in one lot, 13 by tahsils or blocks, and only one, the Garhwal district, by a shop-to-shop settlement. The consumption of *ganja* rose approximately from 20,000 to 24,000 seers, the Ballia district and the adjoining Gorakhpur division absorbing over 90 per cent. of the increase. The consumption of *charas* on the other hand diminished by 5·7 per cent. to 41,234 seers, the lowest figure on record. All divisions except Allahabad and Fyzabad shared in the decline. The progressive increase in the consumption of *ganja* at the expense of that of *charas* during the past three years is attributed primarily to the increase in the duty on *charas* from Rs. 8 to Rs. 12 per seer with effect from the 1st April 1912, and to the uncertainty regarding its supply caused by the action of the Chinese authorities. The consumption of *bhang* rose from 198,146 to 230,779 seers, the increase occurring mainly in the Oudh and Gorakhpur divisions. The aggregate income from duty on hemp drugs rose by 5·4 per cent., and amounted to 8 lakhs, or less than half that from the licence fees. The latter

is the more fluctuating and speculative source of income, and the advisability of increasing the duty onall three forms of hemp drugs is therefore being considered. The number of shops licensed to retail hemp drugs increased by 1 to 3,458.

Opium.

222. Following rises of consumption in the two previous years, licence fees for the sale of opium rose by 13·3 per cent., increasing the provincial incidence per seer of combined cost price and licence fees from Rs. 28-7-0 to Rs. 30-0-5 for non-official vend. The highest increases occurred in the districts that were known to have been connected with smuggling during the year. The real receipts from licence fees rose from 4·15 to 4·70 lakhs. As with country spirit, however, this rise was accompanied by a fall in consumption from 65,073 seers to 61,666 seers, a lower figure than any in the previous decade. The decrease is ascribed partly to vigilance in the suppression of smuggling and the restriction of issues to suspected shops in 11 districts, and partly to the special economic circumstances of the year. The income from duty amounted to 7·78 lakhs, of which 1·09 lakh accrued from sale by official vendors. The corresponding figures for the previous year were 8·25 lakhs and 1·08 lakh respectively. The rate of duty remained unchanged during the year, but, as a step towards equalizing the issue price of opium throughout India, with effect from the 1st April 1915 the wholesale price per seer was raised to Rs. 23 in all but the Cawnpore, Benares, and western border districts, where it was fixed at Rs. 25. The number of shops licensed to retail raw opium was reduced from 1,091 to 1,083.

Tari and sendhi (sap of palmyra and date palms.)

223. Licence fees for the sale of tari and sendhi again showed an increase, from 3·20 to 3·42 lakhs, practically the whole of which occurred in the Gorakhpur district. The number of licences was reduced from 2,978 to 2,922.

Foreign liquor.

224. The number of shops licensed to retail European liquor, either imported or manufactured in India, fell from 163 to 154, but the total yield from licence fees remained approximately constant at ·61 lakh. The drop in receipts from malt liquor manufactured in India after the European method, from ·62 to ·28 lakh, was mainly owing to the arrears due from the Old Brewery, Mussooree. Duty on spirits similarly manufactured, however, showed an increase from 1·84 to 2·55 lakhs, which was chiefly the result of the issue of rum to troops proceeding to the war and of the arrested import of German rum. Duty free issues of rum to the commissariat department rose from 2,124 to 87,718 gallons. The quantity of wines, spirits, and beer sold under wholesale licences, both to other licensed vendors and to the public, showed a decrease under every head except that of sale of spirits to the public, while the retail sales under shop licences were appreciably smaller for all three items. The reduced consumption is attributed to the moral and economic effects of the war.

Prosecutions.

225. The total number of cases filed in court under the Excise Act fell from 1,763 to 1,685, the decrease occurring mainly under the head of illicit distillation which showed a decline from 610 to 399 cases. As usual the Allahabad, Fatehpur, and Partabgarh districts headed the list for this offence, accounting between them for 259 cases; but their figures too have fallen and the Allahabad total alone was 148 less than in the previous year. Cases of cocaine smuggling again increased, totalling 263 as against 233 in 1913-14. Benares and Saharanpur showed 54 cases each, Cawnpore and Allahabad 31 each. It is believed that the increase was largely due to more vigorous detective action, for the stoppage of trade with Germany and Austria has cut off the chief sources of supply and the price of the smuggled drug is known to have risen enormously. Convictions for drunkenness decreased from 2,364 to 1,936, the highest rate per 10,000 of population being 14·9 at Allahabad. The improvement was probably due to diminished drinking caused by high prices. The number of cases under the opium laws increased from 313 to 411, prosecutions for keeping *chandu* dens rising from 74 to 75. Here too the increase is ascribed to greater activity by the preventive staff. But it is not considered that the department has yet succeeded in doing more than just hold in check the opium smuggler, who readily shifts the scene of his operations as soon as he is interfered with. The Rampur state was specially addressed by Government with regard to opium and cocaine

smuggling, and the state authorities have given their genuine co-operation. The percentage of convictions to persons tried fell from 88 to 84·4 for cases under the Excise Act and increased from 84·7 to 86·7 for opium offences.

General.

226. A conference was held at Delhi during the year to concert measures for inter-provincial co-operation for the suppression of cocaine smuggling in the Delhi province and bordering districts of the Punjab and United Provinces. Meetings of local advisory committees were held in 36 municipalities, at which the number and location of shops were considered. With effect from the 1st April 1916 these committees, hitherto restricted to the larger cities, are to be extended to all municipalities and made wholly non-official. An experimental fixed fee system for licensing country spirit shops is to be introduced in the Muzaffarnagar district from the same date. The new Excise Opium Manual was printed and distributed during the year, and the law relating to the powers of police officers for search and investigation in excise cases was defined clearly by the amending Act (I of 1915) passed by the provincial Legislative Council as already mentioned. Smuggling from native states was not very serious. The creation of a two-mile shopless zone on each side of the border between the Rewah state and these provinces is under discussion.

42—Stamps.

(*For details see the annual report on the stamp returns for the year ending* 31*st March* 1915, *and the tables under the head "Stamps", Part IV(b)—Statistics of British India.*)

Receipts and charges.

227. The gross receipts under the Stamp Act and the Court Fees Act for the year under review fell by 1·35 lakh to 118·18 lakhs. Charges also fell, from 3·16 to 2·91 lakhs, so that the decrease in net receipts amounted to 1·1 lakh. The imperial share of the receipts and charges under the head of Stamps is one half.

Judicial stamps.

228. The gross income from judicial stamps continued to increase, rising from 92·47 to 92·93 lakhs, and but for the war and high prices the increase would probably have been larger. The sale of stamps for copies, however, which is included in this aggregate, showed some decline.

Non-judicial stamps.

229. The value of non-judicial stamps sold during the year decreased from 27·06 to 25·25 lakhs, practically every class of stamp suffering a diminished sale. This heavy decline of over 1¾ lakhs in the receipts under the Stamp Act is attributed to trade depression and shrinkage in business resulting from the war.

Prosecutions.

230. The number of prosecutions for stamp offences rose from 750 to 787. Cases of insufficiently stamped or unstamped instruments dealt with during the year also increased, from 2,201 to 2,304, though the sum realized in duty and penalties, amounting in all to Rs. 25,218, fell short of the 1913-14 figure by Rs. 5,205.

43—Assessed taxes.

(*For details see the annual Income tax returns of the province for the year ending* 31*st March* 1915, *and the tables under the head "Income tax," Part IV (b)—Statistics of British India.*)

Income tax.

231. Income tax is the only directly assessed tax in these provinces. The net collections during the year showed a slight decrease, from 26·71 to 26·22 lakhs. The total final demand for the year under report was 21·71 lakhs, of which 21·57 lakhs were collected, the corresponding figures for the previous year being 22·29 and 22·17 lakhs respectively. Appeals and objections rose in number from 8,763 to 9,764, and the percentage which were wholly unsuccessful increased from 64·40 to 68·08. Writs of demand issued totalled 2,790 and other coercive processes 7,603 as compared with totals of 2,746 and 5,834 respectively in 1913-14. The expenditure incurred in assessment and collection increased from Rs. 1,663 to Rs. 1,720. The proceeds of the tax less cost of collection are divided equally between the imperial and provincial revenues.

Customs.

44—Any other taxes levied for imperial purposes.

232. The yield from customs, the whole of which is credited to the imperial exchequer, was Rs. 1,91,014 as compared with Rs. 2,22,931 in the previous year. Excise duty on cotton manufactures is the only customs duty levied in these provinces.

45—Forests.

233. The receipts from forests are no longer shared between the imperial and provincial revenues, but credited entirely to the latter.

(b)—Revenue and Finance other than Imperial.

46—Provincial revenues.

(*For details see the Government resolution on the provincial revenues of* 1914-15.)

Financial position.

234. The general results of the year's transactions and their comparison with those of the previous year are set out in the following table (figures indicating money when written without the symbol "Rs." refer to thousands of rupees):—

	1913-14.	1914-15.	Difference.
Opening balance	1,84,23	1,84,74	+51
Receipts	6,80,06	6,61,20	—18,86
Charges	6,79,55	7,00,87	+21,32
Closing balance	1,84,74	1,45,07	—39,67

The opening and closing balances contained 56,63 and 43,14 respectively on account of earmarked assignments by the Government of India for education, sanitation, and the general purposes of the administration. The real provincial closing balance was therefore 1,01,93, or 81,93 above the prescribed minimum of 20 lakhs. This result, having regard to the heavy expenditure on famine relief, might well have been regarded as satisfactory but for the intervention of the war which, while at present not adding materially to the financial burdens of the province, is, by its depressing effects on the trade of the country, seriously interfering with the development of provincial income and threatens, by its protracted duration, to check all progress for some time to come.

No change was introduced during the year in the terms of the provincial settlement with the Government of India. Changes in the classification of the accounts were necessitated by the inauguration of the scheme for the relief of local rates and Act XX towns from police charges, and by the provincialization of the salaries of officers of the imperial veterinary department. Other changes in classification included the splitting up of the old major head "Scientific and other minor departments" into the sub-heads "Agriculture" and "Scientific and miscellaneous departments," and an alteration of the designation of the major head "Assessed taxes" into "Income tax." The audit results of the year revealed a general improvement, the reduction in the number of miscellaneous irregularities being specially remarkable.

Receipts.

235. The decline in provincial income is in the main accounted for by a reduction of 22,01 under Provincial Rates owing to the discontinuance of the appropriations from local rates on account of rural police charges in the province of Agra. The larger variations under the different heads of income are set out below:—

	Increase.	Decrease.
Land Revenue...	13,52	...
Interest	5,02	...
Courts of Law	1,09	...
Medical	72	...
Irrigation major works ... ... (Public Works department)	6,92	...
Provincial Rates	...	22,01
Imperial Assignments	...	9,47
Excise	...	6,45
Forests	...	5,77
Miscellaneous...	...	1,19

As regards increases, that under Land Revenue is accounted for by larger collections following on an improvement in the agricultural situation, while that under Interest is explained by the enormous distributions of *takavi* necessitated by the famine. Under Courts of Law the increase was chiefly due to higher receipts from process fees and fines, and under Medical to the refund of a grant-in-aid paid to the Naini Tal municipality in 1913-14 and to the recovery from district boards of a half share of the cost of district travelling dispensaries. The increase under Irrigation major works and the decreases under Excise and Forests have been explained in the sections dealing with these subjects. The decline under Miscellaneous was the result of smaller receipts from unclaimed deposits (—90) and from the sale of nazul lands and houses (—21), while the decrease in Imperial Assignments followed from a reduction of 10,98 in the assignment required to bring the provincial share of divisible land revenue up to the guaranteed minimum of 240 lakhs, partly counterbalanced by a net increase of 1,51 in the assignments sanctioned for other purposes, notably a further recurring assignment of 1,00, for the improvement of education.

Expenditure.

236. The more important variations included in the net increase of 21,32 in provincial charges were as follows:—

	Increase.	Decrease.
Land Revenue	3,19	...
Forests	4,22	...
Interest on ordinary debt ...	2,92	...
Courts of Law	2,92	...
Jails	2,53	...
Police	14,60	...
Superannuation Allowances and Pensions	1,50	...
Famine Relief	15,55	...
Irrigation—Interest on debt ...	1,45	...
Departmental Civil Works ...	10,66	...
Education	...	8,35
Medical	...	5,04
Miscellaneous	...	2,15
Civil Works in charge of civil officers	...	24,74

The famine relief expenditure was necessitated by the exceptional circumstances of the year, while of the increase of 14,60 under Police 9,96 was owing to the provincialization of the village police charges in Oudh and 1,70 to higher expenditure on grain compensation allowance. The rise under Land Revenue was due to the increased amount required for settlements, to payments of grain compensation allowance, to the introduction of the second stage of the scheme for improving the cadre of deputy collectors, to the recall of officers from leave, and to the entertainment of extra staff in connection with agricultural distress. A part (1,35) of the increase under Courts of Law is also ascribable, more or less, to the same causes, while the remainder consisted mostly of the extra amount spent in witnesses' diet allowances consequent on the increase in the number of civil and sessions courts under the Greeven scheme. The reasons for the increases under Forests and Jails have already been given in the sections on Forests and Prisons respectively. More liberal distributions of *takavi*, resulting in larger outstandings in the provincial loan account, were responsible for the increase of 2,92 under Interest on ordinary debt, while an enlarged capital outlay combined with a higher rate of interest explains the rise in irrigation interest charges. The inevitable growth of the pension list and lump payments on account of commutations were responsible for the increase of 1,50 under Superannuation Allowances and Pensions; and the large increase under Departmental Civil Works is accounted for by higher expenditure on civil buildings (+4,43), communications (+2,41), and tools and plant (+1,00), and by a smaller issue of stores in the suspense account (+3,07). The principal decrease in expenditure was 24,74 under Civil Works in charge of civil officers and this is almost entirely explained by the exclusion from the accounts of 1914-15 of special non-recurring contributions (provided out of imperial funds) made to district boards in

1913-14 in order to place those bodies in funds for the execution of urgent projects pending the introduction of the scheme for the relief of local rates from police charges. A decrease of 12,85 in contributions to district and municipal boards for education was largely due to the same cause. The other chief variations under Education were a decrease of 2,56 in the grants to Allahabad University, which received special non-recurring aid in 1913-14, and increases of 5,58 in grants to private institutions and of 93 in the outlay on Government and special schools. The decrease under Miscellaneous is mainly accounted for by smaller grants to municipal and district boards, while that under Medical was owing to reduced outlay (—1,90) on sanitation and vaccination out of the recurring and non-recurring grants sanctioned by the Government of India, to smaller contributions (– 1,82) to district boards in accordance with the new contracts made with these bodies, and to diminished expenditure on salaries of district medical officers and on plague preventive measures resulting chiefly from the reversion of commissioned medical officers to military duty.

Provincial budget.

237. The following table compares the budget estimates with the actual figures for the year :—

	Budget.	Actuals.	Difference.
Opening balance	1,82,26	1,84,74	+2,48
Receipts...	6,59,90	6,61,20	+1,30
Charges...	7,31,82	7,00,87	—30,95
Closing balance	1,10,34	1,45,07	+34,73

The improvement in the opening balance was due to an under-estimate in the revised estimates of 1913-14, upon which the budget for the year under review was based. The increase of 1,30 in provincial income was the net result of numerous variations from the original estimates, of which the following were the most important :—Increases —4,53 under Land Revenue, 56 under Imperial Assignments, 64 under Provincial Rates, 1,64 under Interest, 99 under Courts of Law, 76 under Miscellaneous, and 11,80 under Irrigation major and minor works (Public Works department); decreases—41 under Stamps, 3,42 under Excise, and 15,94 under Forests. Of the decrease under Forests 11¾ lakhs were due to the impossibility of getting the sleeper treating scheme into working order during the year under report. The remainder of the decreases were the result of the depression caused by war and famine. The increases under Land Revenue, Irrigation, and Courts of Law are explained by the reasons already given for the rise in actual income under these heads, while that under Miscellaneous calls for no special comment. The increase of 56 under Imperial Assignments was the net result of numerous alterations in the original estimates. Owing to the improvement in land revenue receipts just referred to, the assignment of 8,21 originally estimated as required to bring the provincial share of divisible land revenue up to the guaranteed minimum of 240 lakhs was reduced by 3,86 to 4,35. On the other hand, new assignments amounting to 4,49 were received during the year, including among the larger items 27 for the provincialization of the imperial staff of the civil veterinary department, 1,69 for tank works in Bundelkhand, 1,00 for the sanitary improvement of the pilgrim route to Badrinath and Kedarnath, and 1,00 in connection with the establishment of an experimental sullage farm at Lucknow. The increase of 64 under Provincial Rates was due to a change in the procedure for the collection of the Court of Wards rate, which resulted in the recovery of an extra instalment within the year under review ; while the increase of 1,64 in interest receipts was due to higher recoveries on account of interest on agricultural loans. The net reduction of 30,95 in the expenditure as compared with the budget total was the outcome of increases of 1,36 under Interest on ordinary debt, 1,16 under Courts of Law, 1,92 under Jails, 2,88 under Police, 74 under Agriculture, 1,31 under Superannuation Allowances and Pensions, 77 under Stationery and Printing, 7,01 under Famine Relief—Civil, 1,11 under Irrigation—Interest on debt, 2,27 under Irrigation minor works, and 2,43 under Departmental Civil Works, and decreases of 4.82 under Land

Revenue, 8,83 under Forests, 8,02 under Education, 12,32 under Medical, 11,70 under Miscellaneous, 6,71 under Famine Relief—Public Works, and 2,05 under Civil Works in charge of civil officers. The variations under Famine Relief represent mainly a redistribution between the Civil and Public Works departments. The excess under Interest on ordinary debt consisted of higher outstandings resulting from a more extensive grant of agricultural loans than had been allowed for, while that under Courts of Law was compounded of a number of minor items and would have been somewhat larger had the sums provided for additional judges and establishments and for extra courts been fully utilized. The increase under Jails was mainly due to the rise in prices of food grains and the enlarged number of prisoners. The excess under Police was the combined effect of numerous variations, of which the most prominent were an extra payment of 2,18 on account of grain compensation allowance and a lapse of 1,70 out of the lump provision for the provincialization of Act XX town police owing to delay in the introduction of the scheme. Under Agriculture the items occasioning the higher expenditure were experimental farms, well boring operations, and the purchase of serum for the civil veterinary department. The excess under pensions was due to new sanctions having been under-estimated, while that under Stationery and Printing resulted chiefly from higher expenditure on stationery supplied from the central stores. A higher rate of interest on outlay from capital accounts for the excess under Irrigation—Interest on debt, and expenditure against assignments received from the Government of India for tank works in Bundelkhand for the greater part of the excess under Irrigation minor works. Under Departmental Civil Works a total excess of 8,87 under the ordinary heads is explained by the transfer of provision from other major heads, as also partly by the devotion of savings on the general budget to the execution of urgent projects not originally provided for. The excess was counterbalanced to the extent of 6,44 by savings in the provision of 6,75 made out of the Government of India's grant for the general purposes of the administration. Of decreases that of 4,82 under Land Revenue was mostly due to the lapse of the lump provision of 6,25 for the revision of establishments, set off by excesses on account of grain compensation allowance, settlement charges, and the recall of officers from leave. Under Forests the decrease was in the main the result of the lapse of 8,04 out of a total allotment of 11,79 owing to the delay with the sleeper supply scheme already mentioned. The large decrease under Education was made up of lapses from the Government of India's grants (—9,44) and transfers to the head of Civil Works (—2,13), partly counter balanced by higher expenditure on contributions to municipal and district boards, including a grant to the latter of 2,45 for hostel buildings sanctioned out of imperial subsidies. Similarly under Medical the bulk of the decrease of 12,32 was due to a lapse of 9,98 from the Government of India's recurring and non-recurring grants for sanitation. Of the remainder 1,43 represents a transfer of provision from the imperial grants to the budget of the Public Works department, 81 was due to lower expenditure on measures for the prevention of plague, 72 to the reversion of medical officers to military duty, 45 to lower payments on account of municipal health and sanitary officers, and 88 to a reduction in the contribution to district boards under the new contracts entered into with these bodies during the year under review. These reductions were, however, partly counterbalanced by additional expenditure sanctioned by the Government of India and covered by imperial assignments of 1,00 for the sanitary improvement of the pilgrim route to Badrinath and Kedarnath and of 1,00 for a sullage farm at Lucknow. Under Miscellaneous, thanks to an improvement in the agricultural situation, the provision of 8,20 for remission of *takavi* advances was not utilized to the extent of 7,73, the balance of the saving resulting chiefly from the transfer of the lump provision of 4,00 for grain compensation allowance and other indirect famine expenditure to other heads of account and a reduction of 35 in contributions to district boards, set off by an extra grant of 53 to certain municipalities mainly with a view to compensating them for the loss of income involved by the abolition of octroi. The decrease of 2,05 under Civil Works in charge of civil officers was entirely owing to a reduction of 2,06 in

grants to district boards due to the revision and redistribution of the contribution figures in accordance with the new contracts. The great bulk (25,86) of the apparent saving in provincial expenditure compared with the budget estimates was thus obtained from postponed disbursement of special grants received from the Government of India.

47—Local revenues.

(*For details see the accounts of the excluded local funds published in the Government Gazette of the 25th September 1915, and the annual report on the working of district boards for the year ending 31st March 1915.*)

238. The opening balance of excluded local funds was 77·27 lakhs. Receipts amounted to 142·50 lakhs and the expenditure to 132·26 lakhs as against 158·45 and 121·52 lakhs respectively in 1913, leaving a closing balance of 87·51 lakhs. Each class of fund taken as a whole was solvent. The finances of the district boards, which form by far the most important item, are dealt with in detail in Chapter III of this report. The differences shown above between the figures for the year under review and those for the previous year are the result of the variations in the district boards' funds. The other chief heads were the cantonment, town and bazar, police, medical and charitable, and educational funds. The cantonment fund opened with a balance of 3·03 lakhs, received 10·42 lakhs, and disbursed 10·67 lakhs. The corresponding figures for the town and bazar funds were 2·17, 4·26, and 4·29 lakhs. The police funds, which are for rural police in Oudh, police remounts, and police clothing, started the year with 6·88 lakhs in hand; their income totalled 4·71 lakhs and their expenditure 9·85 lakhs. Medical and charitable funds received 2·18 lakhs during the year, of which ·83 lakh was spent, the closing balance rising to 1·76 lakh. The educational funds consisted of the Lyall Collegiate School fund (Gonda) and the Colvin Institute fund (Sitapur). The totals for their combined opening balances, receipts, and charges were Rs. 12,887, Rs. 22,594, and Rs. 22,751 respectively. Owing to the introduction of the new United Provinces Local Rates Act, I of 1914, which supersedes the United Provinces Local and Rural Police Rates Act, II of 1906, the appropriations to provincial revenues from the local rates in Agra to meet the cost of maintaining the village and road police have been discontinued, and in Oudh the rural police rate has been transformed and combined with the original local rate to form a consolidated local rate. As a result of these changes the whole of the proceeds from the local rates in each district are credited to the district board fund and the rural police fund (Oudh) has been abolished, the cost of the rural police in Oudh having been provincialized. The Bengal Chaukidari Act, XX of 1856, has been repealed in so far as it extended to the United Provinces, by the new United Provinces Town Areas Act, II of 1914, which now controls the town funds mentioned above. The number of towns under the operations of Act II of 1914 remained unchanged at 257. The cantonment dispensary funds have been closed by being merged in the general cantonment fund.

48—Municipal funds.

(*For details see the annual review of municipal administration for the year ending 31st March 1915.*)

239. The aggregate opening balance of the municipalities of the province was 42·54 lakhs as compared with 38·04 lakhs at the commencement of the previous year. Receipts and expenditure during the year, including loans and deposits, totalled 97·04 and 104·84 lakhs respectively as against 111·02 and 106·28 lakhs respectively in 1913-14. The closing balance was thus 34·74 lakhs. The income of the 48 notified areas of the province increased from 3·29 to 3·38 lakhs, and their expenditure from 3·18 to 3·49 lakhs. Their closing balances aggregated 1·76 lakh. Owing to their conversion from municipalities into notified areas from the 1st April 1914 the figures for Sardhana and Kosi have been included in the latter category.

CHAPTER VI.—VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICES.

49—Details of census.

(See under "Details of the last census"—Chapter I of the report for 1911-12.)

50—Births and deaths.

(For details see the annual report of the Sanitary Commissioner for the year ending 31*st December* 1914, *and the tables under the head "Vital Statistics," Part V—Statistics of British India.)*

Births.

240. The birth and death rates quoted below are calculated per mille of the total population (46,835,108) recorded at the 1911 census. The number of births registered during the year was 2,104,554 as compared with 2,232,999 in 1913, and the birth rate decreased from 47·67 to 44·93, the average for the previous quinquennium being 42·24. The birth rate fell sharply after January, remaining low and fairly constant from February to May, but rose again during the rains and reached its maximum in August, subsequently showing a gradual decline. The proportion of male to female births was 108·43 to 100 which is practically the same as in the four preceding years. The provincial birth rate exceeded the death rate by 11·47 as against 12·83 in 1913. The excess was general everywhere except in the Naini Tal, Ballia, Bijnor, and Moradabad districts where the death rate was high, in Ballia on account of plague and in the other three chiefly because of cholera and fever. Among districts showing high birth rates Jhansi stood first with 57·22, closely followed by Hamirpur with 56·45, the next in order being Jalaun (52·12), Bijnor (50·25), Farrukhabad (49·41), and Cawnpore (49·25). The Naini Tal and Dehra Dun districts with 30·54 and 25·56 respectively were as usual the lowest on the list owing to their fluctuating population. The number of births registered in the 84 municipalities of the province increased from 122,492 to 127,929, and the birth rate rose from 41·77 to 43·55, a figure that has only once been exceeded in the last 34 years. Firozabad in the Agra district with 66·54 again had the highest rate, followed by Kasganj (Etah) with 65·43, Mau (Jhansi) with 63·35, and Nagina (Bijnor) with 60·48. The municipalities showing the lowest rates were as usual Mussooree (13·60), Naini Tal (14·19), and Mainpuri (22·72). All but 28 of the municipalities showed excesses of birth rate over death rate, the largest being 23·55 at Sikandra Rao (Aligarh), and the excess for the entire municipal area was 2·60 as against 2·51 in 1913. In the 48 notified areas of the province, however, the number of births recorded fell from 15,325 to 14,580, and the birth rate from 43·92 to 42·07.

Deaths.

241. The total number of deaths registered during the year decreased by 64,427 to 1,567,266, and the death rate fell from 34·84 to 33·46, the average death rate for the preceding five years being 37·14. Bijnor district showed the highest mortality with a death rate of 54·83, Moradabad district coming next with one of 51·67. Death rates of over 40 were also recorded in the Rae Bareli, Jhansi, Ballia, Saharanpur, Bareilly, and Sultanpur districts, the chief factors responsible for increasing mortality being cholera, fever, and plague. The mortality in all the famine and scarcity districts (except Moradabad, where high mortality was chiefly due to relapsing fever) was much below the normal. All poorhouses and all relief works, save a few in the Banda district, remained free from epidemic diseases and not a single death from starvation was reported. The number of deaths returned in municipal towns rose from 115,116 to 120,278, giving a death rate of 40·95 as against 39·26 in 1913. Those most conspicuous for high death rates were Nagina with 68·33, Bijnor with 67·26, Chandpur with 63·72, and Najibabad with 62·40, all of which are in the Bijnor district where epidemics and disease of every description were unusually prevalent. The municipalities showing the most marked excesses of death rate over birth rate were Bijnor (20·07), Azamgarh (16·88), Brindaban (Muttra) (15·78), and Rae Bareli

VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICES.

(14·60). In notified areas deaths decreased from 13,429 to 11,895, the death rate falling from 38·48 to 34·32. The provincial death rate showed a slight decline in February, but then rose, reaching its maximum in April; a marked fall ensued up till July when the lowest mortality was recorded, and for the rest of the year the rate remained fairly constant at a rather higher figure, though still appreciably less than in January. Deaths among males numbered 816,149 and among females 751,117, the corresponding death rates being 33·35 and 33·58 respectively as against 35·05 and 34·60 respectively in 1913. Mortality among males was higher than among females except between the ages of 5 and 30. Infantile mortality per thousand births in the year rose from 229·7 to 233·5, the increase being largely the result of an unusually heavy death roll from measles. Though higher than that of the preceding two years the rate was still below the average of 255·0 for the decennium 1901—10. The highest rates were shown by districts where the general mortality was high, Bijnor coming first with 330·31. In the eastern districts the rate was low. Among municipalities the worst were Jhansi and Rurki with rates of 384·38 and 384·31 respectively, the average municipal rate being 292·90 as compared with 272·82 in 1913. Infantile mortality in these provinces is unfortunately very heavy and, like the general death rate, is only exceeded in the Central Provinces and the Delhi enclave. With a view to its reduction the number of travelling dispensaries was increased during the year from 74 to 87, of which 47, that is one to every district except Garhwal, are under the district boards, which each contribute Rs. 1,000 or roughly half the cost of their unit; the remaining 40 are provincial and liable to service wherever needed. A further six provincial travelling dispensaries have been sanctioned. Another measure with the same object was the admission of 793 *dhais* to training, of whom 398 had passed by the end of the year.

Registration of vital statistics.

242. The Deputy Sanitary Commissioners tested only 8,009 birth and death entries as against 41,445 in 1913, the low figure being due to the absence of one of them on leave during the earlier part of the year, to the reversion of two out of the four to military duty in the autumn, and to their time being occupied in lecturing to health officers and sanitary inspectors. The total number tested by the local authorities also decreased, from 605,435 to 525,381, the percentage of omissions discovered being 3·35 in birth registration and 2·35 in death registration as compared with 3·02 and 2·00 respectively in the previous year. The vaccination staff checked 812,643 entries, an increase of 32,630, and the percentage of omissions revealed fell from ·37 to ·31 for births and from ·21 to ·18 for deaths. An enquiry at Lucknow brought out the fact that only about 1/30 of the deaths registered under the heading fever and malaria were in reality caused by the latter disease. A great many were due to phthisis, diarrhoea, and pneumonia.

Cholera.

243. Cholera was responsible for 32,498 deaths as against 60,427 in 1913, and the death rate fell from 1·29 to ·69, the average rate for the previous five years being 1·36. The mortality was low till April but increased as the weather grew hotter, and after a temporary decline when the rains broke finally reached its maximum in September. A gradual subsidence followed, but the death rate in December was still considerably higher than at the beginning of the year. The Banda district with a mortality of 2·98 was the worst sufferer, while on the other hand the Hardoi, Unao, Farrukhabad, Shahjahanpur, Cawnpore, Kheri, and Lucknow districts were remarkably free from the disease. The highest rate for towns was 13·59 at Kiratpur in the Bijnor district, the average urban rate being ·84. The scheme for the amelioration of cholera in rural tracts by the distribution to patwaris of permanganate of potash for well disinfection was carried out during the year in the Gorakhpur, Benares, Lucknow, and Fyzabad divisions, and appeared to give very promising results. Rules for the prevention of cholera in urban areas were sanctioned by Government during the year.

Small-pox.

244. The death rate from small-pox rose from ·17 to ·38, the quinquennial average being ·08. Out of a total of 17,954 deaths 5,591 occurred among infants and 10,636 among children aged from 1 to 10 years,

the corresponding figures for 1913 being 8,156, 2,936, and 4,352 respectively. The mortality was greatest in May and lowest in October. Among districts the highest rate was 2·40 at Allahabad, and among towns 6·76 at Kiratpur (Bijnor). The Etawah, Jalaun, Hamirpur, and Banda districts recorded only 11 deaths between them. Of the 93 towns with a population of 10,000 and upwards 23 returned no deaths and 41 less than 10. The total number of deaths in towns was 2,446, making the death rate in urban areas ·79.

Plague.

245. Plague accounted for 103,954 deaths as against 107,683 in 1913, the death rates being 2·22 and 2·30 respectively as compared with the quinquennial average of 3·19. The maximum monthly mortality occurred in March with 33,814 deaths, and the minimum in July with 47. As usual the mortality declined as the hot weather set in, rising again slowly during the second half of the year. No cases were reported from the Agra, Hamirpur, Almora, and Garhwal districts, and only one and two respectively from the Dehra Dun and Jhansi districts. Ballia with a death rate of 26·20 was the district most afflicted, the next in order being Ghazipur and Azamgarh. Of the larger towns 27 returned no deaths and 28 less than 10; the worst victims were the towns in the east, Mau, Mubarakpur, and Azamgarh, all of which are in the Azamgarh district, showing death rates of 34·44, 29·45, and 25·76 respectively. The number of inoculations against plague fell from 84,109 to 81,302, of which 48,051 were performed through the agency of travelling dispensaries. The reduction was largely the consequence of the diminished incidence of the epidemic. As usual the eastern districts were responsible for the large bulk of the inoculations, Ballia claiming 31,985. Travelling dispensaries again achieved notable success and, as already described, are in future to form a regular supplement of the medical work of a district. The distinction between those for plague and those for malaria has been abolished.

Fever.

246. During the year 1,050,503 deaths were reported from fever as against 1,118,455 in 1913, and the death rate fell from 22·88 to 22·43, the quinquennial average being 26·10. Fever mortality decreased in February, but then rose reaching its maximum in May. A decline followed till August, when the fewest deaths were recorded, and thereafter the rate exhibited a slight tendency to rise. The severest death rate was 43·48 returned by the Moradabad district, where the high figures were due to relapsing fever. Bijnor district came second with a death rate of 42·24, while the districts that suffered least were Ballia, Basti, Mirzapur, Bahraich, and Dehra Dun. Of the larger towns Deoband (Saharanpur) with a mortality of 51·73 showed the worst figures, and there were two others in the north-west with rates of over 40. The rates for Meerut (8·42) and Lucknow (10·96) were respectively the second and fifth lowest. The death rate for all urban areas fell from 20·17 to 19·72. The provincial and divisional malaria committees met during the year, and the prevention measures undertaken comprised the continuance of the research concerning the influence of rice cultivation on malaria incidence in some of the eastern districts, an investigation into the causes of excessive mortality in the low lying tract bordering the Jumna in the Muttra district and in Hotipura village in the Agra district, the enquiry at Lucknow already alluded to regarding the high death rates recorded from fever during April and May, and lectures and lantern demonstrations at various exhibitions and fairs. The anti-malarial schemes at Saharanpur, Kosi (Muttra), and Nagina (Bijnor) were in progress, and towards the close of the year the Government of India allotted a grant of a lakh for similar measures at Meerut and Bhim Tal. During the rainy season school quininization was carried out in 28 districts. In five of these the district boards were permitted to conduct their own schemes unaided by Government and to recover, completely or partially, the cost of the quinine. In the remainder Government exercised varying degrees of supervision. Prophylactic doses were administered to over 126,000 teachers, scholars, and servants drawn from 2,170 schools, as well as to the provincial police, jail staff and prisoners. The sale of one-rupee packets of quinine, conducted mainly through the agency of subordinate district officials of various departments, showed a decrease from 11,441 to 6,756, which appeared to be due to the extended free distribution of the drug

by travelling dispensaries. Cases of enteric and typhus fever occurred at Bhim Tal in the Naini Tal district and were traced to the insanitary conditions of the settlement. Steps are being taken for its improvement. The excessive mortality in certain villages in the Muttra and Agra districts was found to be due to relapsing fever.

Dysentery and diarrhoea, and respiratory diseases.

247. The total number of deaths from dysentery and diarrhoea increased from 16,164 to 18,436, the death rate being ·39 as against the quinquennial average of ·37. As in previous years the Garhwal and Almora districts suffered the most severely. The mortality was least in February and heaviest in June, and as usual was much worse in urban areas, where the death rate was 2·74, than in rural tracts. Respiratory diseases were registered as the cause of 23,518 deaths as compared with 21,845 in 1913, the death rate of ·50 being ·06 above the quinquennial average. July had the lightest mortality and September the heaviest. The Hamirpur district again returned by far the highest rate. The death rate in urban areas was 4·15 and in rural tracts ·24. The figures for respiratory diseases, however, are unreliable as most of the deaths from this cause are erroneously recorded under fever.

Injuries.

248. Deaths from injuries increased from 23,096 to 25,884 and were somewhat more numerous than usual. Suicides accounted for 2,335 as against 2,327 in the previous year, 1,668 being among females. Snakes and wild beasts killed 6,030 persons, an increase of 501, and 191 perished from rabies.

All other causes.

249. All other causes accounted for 2,94,516 deaths as against 2,75,867 in 1913, the death rate rising from 5·89 to 6·29. The higher figures were the result of a large increase, from 28,580 to 60,599, in the mortality from measles, the bulk of which occurred in the south-western half of Oudh.

51—Emigration and Immigration.

(*For details see the annual report on the working in the United Provinces of the Assam Labour and Emigration Act, VI of* 1901, *for the year ending* 30*th June* 1915, *the annual report on Emigration from the Port of Calcutta to British and Foreign Colonies for* 1914, *and the tables under the head "Emigration," Part V—Statistics of British India.*)

Foreign emigration.

250. Of the 5,145 emigrants registered at the Port of Calcutta during 1914 for the colonies of Demerara, Trinidad, Fiji, and Surinam, 4,454, or 86·56 per cent., were recruited in the United Provinces. Classification according to place of birth also gave these provinces 4,454 out of the total number. In the previous year out of a total of 9,171 emigrants for the above colonies and for Jamaica 8,755, or 74·84 per cent., were recruited in these provinces. No emigrants for Jamaica were registered in 1914. The districts where the largest numbers were obtained in the year under report were Cawnpore (767), Fyzabad (538), Gonda (521), Lucknow (480), and Basti (426). Basti was the district of birth of 827, and Gonda of 612. Of the 2,961 emigrants who returned to India during the year 843 brought back savings ranging from Re. 1 upwards, and considerable sums were as usual remitted home by those remaining in the different colonies. Separate figures relating to the United Provinces are not available on these points. Emigration to the colonies was temporarily suspended from the month of August to the end of the year owing to the chartering of the emigrant ships by Government for the transport of troops.

Inland emigration.

251. Recruiting under Chapter IV of the Assam Labour and Emigration Act, VI of 1901, was carried on 1914-15 in 18 districts. Complete statistics are not available, but some 3,000 coolies, many of them females and children, were recruited during the year, and possibly more. Recruitment under Chapter V of the Act was reported from the Basti and Gonda districts only. The condition of the depots was generally satisfactory. Cases of infringement of rules and irregularities in recruitment were reported from the Allahabad, Basti, Fatehpur, and Ghazipur districts. In almost every case the offenders have been brought to book and persons recruited against their will repatriated. A further amending Act received the assent of the Governor

General in Council on the 25th March 1915, and it is hoped that it will check to a large degree the irregularities practised under the existing system.

252. No statistics are maintained of immigration. Immigration.

52—Medical relief.

(*For details see the annual report on the administration of civil hospitals for the year ending 31st December 1914, and the tables under the head "Hospitals," Part V—Statistics of British India.*)

253. The year 1914 opened with 570 hospitals and dispensaries, exclusive of travelling dispensaries, and closed with 576, of which 4 were state public, 75 state special, 48 private aided, 49 private non-aided, 54 railway, and 346 local fund dispensaries. The state special dispensaries are mainly those of the police and canal departments. During the year 4,508,345 patients were treated at the state public, local fund, and private aided institutions as against 4,394,477 in 1913, the increase consisting entirely of male out-patients. The indoor attendance decreased slightly from 75,826 to 75,426. The proportion of deaths to the total number of in-patients treated rose from 3·70 to 4·19 per cent., but it was nevertheless slightly under the average for the preceding five years. The number of surgical operations performed during the year increased from 212,801 to 217,014, and the number of patients operated on from 205,596 to 209,899. Of this total 194,389 were cured as against 192,373 in 1913, and 556 died as against 587, giving a lower mortality among persons operated upon than any yet recorded. The development of travelling dispensaries has been alluded to in a previous paragraph. The popularity and usefulness of these institutions is steadily increasing. During the year under review they performed 1,860 major and 19,233 minor operations as compared with 1,511 and 15,832 respectively in 1913, and the total attendance registered by them rose from 629,238 to 679,557; a large number of the operations were for cataract. The numbers of patients treated at police and railway hospitals, canal and forest dispensaries, and private non-aided institutions also increased considerably, the aggregate attendance rising from 662,958 to 723,007. Dispensaries.

254. Lady doctors and female sub-assistant surgeons paid 5,036 visits as against 6,290 in 1913. Of this number 3,293 were medical cases, 637 surgical, and 1,106 midwifery cases. King George's Medical College at Lucknow was unable this year to recruit any new lady students qualified to go up for the University degree. The training of *dhais* has been referred to elsewhere. Lady doctors.

255. Including an opening balance of 3·26 lakhs the total receipts of state public, local fund, and private aided hospitals and dispensaries amounted to 17·67 lakhs as against 17·27 lakhs in 1913. The expenditure increased by ·99 lakh to 15·24 lakhs. Local fund contributions rose from 6·87 to 7·50 lakhs and municipal fund contributions from ·89 to 1·08 lakh. Subscriptions from Europeans increased from Rs. 21,510 to Rs. 22,917, while those from Indians fell from Rs. 1,42,409 to Rs. 1,26,759. The expenditure on medicines showed some enhancement owing to the rise in prices on account of the war. Rs. 412,441 were spent on medical buildings, original works, and Rs. 146,545 on repairs. The sum invested during the year amounted to Rs. 56,423, as against Rs. 1,25,647 in 1913, and by the end of the year the total invested capital had risen by ·51 lakh to 16·06 lakhs. Financial.

256. The system of charging fees from well-to-do patients was introduced during the year. At first great reluctance was shown to pay for medicines and operations, but on the whole neither the indoor nor outdoor attendance at hospitals seems to have been affected. The new system, however, was only in force during the latter half of the year. An experiment for the destruction of rats by fumigation proved a failure owing to the opposition encountered from the people. The practical utility of the method as a preventive against plague therefore could not be tested. King George's Medical College closed the year with 108 students, of whom 103 were resident in the hostel. Out of 71 who took the University General.

examinations 42 were successful. The King Edward VII Sanatorium for consumptives at Bhowali was open throughout the year and admitted 95 patients. An anti-tuberculosis league was formed in Lucknow in February 1914 and lectures were given with a view to educating the public in the simple truths about tuberculosis. The hope, however, that the audiences would in their turn disseminate instruction to a wider circle has so far not been fulfilled. On the outbreak of war many officers of the Indian Medical Service and the Indian Subordinate Medical department were recalled to military duty, and in consequence a number of districts had to be placed in medical charge of civil assistant surgeons.

53.—Sanitation.

(For details see the annual report of the Sanitary Commissioner for the year ending 31st December 1914, the annual report of the Sanitary Engineer for the year ending 31st March 1915, and the tables under the head "Area, Population, and Public Health," Part V—Statistics of British India.)

Municipalities.

257. The figures for the expenditure by municipalities on original sanitary works in 1914 are not available. The total expenditure, however, incurred on works of a sanitary nature under the supervision of the Sanitary Engineer during the year ending 31st March 1915 amounted to 19·68 lakhs. Of this sum 6·71 lakhs were spent on water works (original), 6·80 lakhs on water works (maintenance), and 5·71 lakhs on drainage works. The chief items in the expenditure on water works (original) were 1·45 lakh at Benares, 1·30 lakh at Allahabad, ·83 lakh at Agra, and ·81 lakh at Lucknow, while of the amount invested in drainage schemes Allahabad accounted for 2·56 lakhs, Bahraich for ·99 lakh, and Mussooree for ·80 lakh. These figures are independent of the expenditure under the town improvement trusts at Lucknow, Cawnpore, and Allahabad. Reference to some of the projects in hand has already been made in sections 25 and 35 of this report. Almost all the larger and many of the smaller municipalities had drainage or water works in process of construction, and activity in sanitation has now become a regular feature of municipal administration. In Cawnpore, which suffers so constantly from the irregular course taken by the Ganges, experiments were made with a view to testing the efficiency of the Puech-Chabal system of filtration. Early in 1915 the scheme for laying down a piped water supply at Hardwar was pushed through at very short notice and in time to contribute materially to the comfort of the vast numbers of pilgrims who attended the *Kumbh mela*. Tube well experiments met with considerable success throughout the provinces, and the supplementary aid thus furnished to large water works stations at the more critical periods of the year can scarcely be overestimated. At all water works numerous samples were analysed during the year, both chemically and bacteriologically, and everywhere, except at Allahabad, the results were on the whole satisfactory; the deterioration in quality at Allahabad was due in great measure to the irregular working of the filters by the superintendent in charge. The survey, plans, and estimates for the proposed experimental sullage farm at Jagauli near Lucknow were completed and work will shortly be begun.

Fairs.

258. The 1914 *Magh mela* was held at Allahabad from the 12th January to the 12th February, the attendance on the chief bathing day approximating to a million. Cholera appeared and claimed 7 victims, but fortunately the precautions taken were entirely successful in preventing the spread of the disease. The Dikhauti fair at Hardwar was held as usual in April, and the Tigri fair in the Moradabad district, the Batesar fair in the Agra district, the Garhmuktesar fair in the Meerut district, and the Dadri fair at Ballia were held in the autumn, the attendance at the last two being estimated at 3½ and 6 lakhs respectively. One death of cholera occurred at the Dadri fair, but this was the only outbreak of epidemic disease. All these fairs except Batesar were attended by the Sanitary Commissioner or a Deputy Sanitary Commissioner. A large number of smaller fairs were also held as usual during the year and passed off without mishap.

Sanitary board.

259. The Sanitary Board held seven meetings in 1914. The total sum at the disposal of the Board for expenditure on sanitary works during the year amounted to 5·4 lakhs, of which 5 lakhs were the grant for the budget year 1914-15. Rs. 3,92,018 of this were allotted during the calendar year, and a special grant of 8½ lakhs from the Government of India for urban sanitation was also distributed. Projects aggregating 13·65 lakhs, mainly for drainage, sewerage, and water works, were either administratively sanctioned or approved during the year, and the Board also approved several proposals for schemes for town-planning and the opening out of congested areas. A variety of other matters were considered, and a number of proposals for schemes were placed on the programme of sanitary works to be undertaken by the Sanitary Engineer.

General.

260. The All-India Sanitary Conference met at Lucknow in January 1914 and visits for the delegates were arranged to Hardwar, Allahabad and Benares. Classes for sanitary inspectors and apprentice sanitary inspectors were held during the winter months of 1913-14 and 31 out of 42 candidates passed their examinations. A class for third class health officers was also held, 6 out of 8 candidates proving successful. The sanitary inspector classes were commenced again in the autumn of 1914. During the year the staff of the Sanitary Engineer's establishment received a much needed increase of three gazetted officers. Most of the members are engaged in the preparation of projects, but this year a certain amount of construction work was also undertaken. The value of the projects dealt with by the Sanitary Engineer that were finally sanctioned in 1914-15 amounted to 18 lakhs, and of those prepared but not yet sanctioned to 34½ lakhs, while the preparation of a further large number was in hand, of which the total cost is estimated at no less than 98 lakhs.

54—Vaccination.

(*For details see the annual report on Vaccination for the year ending* 31*st March* 1915, *and the tables under the head "Vaccination," Part V—Statistics of British India.*)

Establishment and charges.

261. The vaccinating staff was composed of 925 vaccinators and 49 assistant superintendents, an increase of 4 vaccinators on that for 1913-14. The total expenditure fell from Rs. 2,53,619 to Rs. 2,47,622, the decrease being due to the reversion of two Deputy Sanitary Commissioners to military duty. With the re-settlement of district boards' finances the standard of vaccination charges and the number of vaccinators were fixed for each district.

Vaccinations.

262. The total number of persons vaccinated rose from 1,640,005 to 1,643,549. Primary vaccinations increased from 1,532,218 to 1,543,567, but re-vaccinations declined from 128,602 to 110,817, practically the whole of the decrease occurring under secondary vaccinations, which would seem to point to an improvement in the quality of the lymph. The percentage of successful primary vaccinations rose from 96·08 to 97·35, while that of successful re-vaccinations fell from 72·44 to 71·76. The number of persons successfully vaccinated per mille of population rose from 32·79 to 33·22. Garhwal as usual headed the list of the best protected districts with a rate of 77·15 per mille. Almora came next, followed by Naini Tal, Jhansi, Hamirpur, Dehra Dun, Hardoi, and Jalaun, all with rates over 40. The district showing the lowest rate was Farrukhabad with 21·99. The rates for Bara Banki, Sultanpur, and Unao were also low. The proportion of successful operations on children under one year of age to births showed a satisfactory improvement. The average cost of a successful case of vaccination remained one anna and eleven pies, which compared favourably with the rates in other provinces.

Inspections.

263. Deputy Sanitary Commissioners and district superintendents of vaccination inspected 219,068 vaccinations as against 241,609 in the previous year. The percentage of cases found successful rose from 95·93 to 97·29 for primary vaccinations, and fell from 59·05 to 57·03 for re-vaccinations. Assistant superintendents and other inspecting officers inspected 668,766

vaccinations as against 660,471 in the preceding year, and the percentage of cases found successful was 96·36 for primary vaccinations and 52·23 for re-vaccinations as compared with 94·92 and 57·70 respectively in 1913-14.

Lymph.

264. The provincial bovine lymph depot at Patwa Dangar in the Naini Tal district issued 94,547 grammes of lymph during the year as against 70,296 grammes in the previous year. The gross income of the depot increased from Rs. 28,867 to Rs. 39,174, and the profit after meeting expenditure from Rs. 11,620 to Rs. 18,652. Calf lymph vaccination replaced arm-to-arm vaccination in four more districts during the year, and calf lymph is now exclusively used in 41 out of the 48 districts and in all municipalities and notified areas. The installation of cold storage plant and the construction of an engine house combined with calf operating and storage rooms were nearing completion when the year closed. The Government of India made a special grant of half a lakh for these improvements, of which Rs. 40,626 had been spent by the end of the year.

CHAPTER VII.—INSTRUCTION.

55—General system of education.

(*See page* 81 *of the report for the year* 1911-12.)

56—Education.

(*For details see the annual report on public instruction for the year ending* 31*st March* 1915, *and the tables under the head "Education," Part VII—Statistics of British India.*)

General.

265. The most important event of the year was the issue of the resolutions summarising the results of the Government's examination of the report of the Piggott Committee and defining the future policy of the Government in the sphere of primary education. The subsequent task of re-organization has taken longer than was originally contemplated; in general the new schemes will not come properly into force till the spring of 1916, and the full effects cannot therefore be manifested for some time to come. It could not be expected that the war would leave the activities of the education department wholly unaffected, but it was not allowed to interfere with the carrying out of schemes initiated before it broke out, and Government continued to make notable advances during the year under report. Much was due again to the generous grants from the Government of India, both recurring and non-recurring, of which 1·08 lakh and 16·65 lakhs respectively were spent during the year. The Local Government too provided 3¾ lakhs towards the increased expenditure, of which Rs. 65,000 was allotted for recurring charges and Rs. 2,64,573 for buildings in the public works department budget. Such bountiful treatment, however, cannot be continued in the immediate future; the prolongation of the war has profoundly altered the situation and the need for rigid economy has become imperative; many desirable schemes therefore must now await the return of more propitious times. Aided schools felt the war more severely because subscriptions, on which they largely rely, tended to diminish, but thanks to the liberal assistance of Government in the past and to the raising of the scale of fees no serious difficulties were experienced. The most prominent effect of the war during the period now under review was the depletion of the *personnel* of the department by the transfer of officers to military duty, several of whom have already given their lives. Many of the schools and colleges sent creditable contributions to the war relief funds and ambulance associations. Keenness for games is yearly becoming more general, and the Boy Scout movement has taken a strong hold both in hill and plains schools, flourishing especially at Naini Tal. An attempt was made at the Government high school at Agra during the year to provide religious instruction and classes were opened for Shia and for Sunni Muhammadans; the attendance, however, became so poor that the classes had to be closed.

Number of institutions and scholars.

266. The total number of all classes of institutions increased during the year from 17,656 to 17,801, and that of scholars attending them from 819,472 to 832,454. The gain was confined to public institutions, the number of private schools falling from 5,095 to 5,059 and that of their scholars from 95,239 to 91,781. The gradual increase in public schools is inevitably accompanied by a decrease in private schools which offer the same kind of instruction. The percentage of scholars to the population of school-going age rose from 11·58 to 11·85.

Expenditure.

267. The total expenditure on public instruction rose from 128·30 to 141·56 lakhs. The expenditure met from provincial revenues rose from 46·74 to 54·60 lakhs, that from district funds from 30·25 to 32·34 lakhs, and that from municipal funds from 4·95 to 5·05 lakhs. The increase in the charges paid from provincial revenues was chiefly due to the grant of 2·45 lakhs to the University and to an increase of 5¼ lakhs in the outlay on buildings.

University.

268. Hitherto the School of Law has been the University's sole effort at centralized teaching, but in the year under review three new University professors were appointed—for post-Vedic studies, economics, and modern Indian history respectively—and each delivered a course of public lectures on his subject during the winter session. It is hoped that the new departure will stimulate higher studies and provide for the carrying on of research work without which the former cannot thrive. There can, however, be little chance of the realization of this hope until the destined college students attain a higher standard in secondary schools before entering on their University career. Of 4,525 candidates for the University matriculation examination 1,627 were successful, while for the intermediate examination the figures were 984 out of 2,151. The results of the other chief University examinations were as follows—for the B.A. 346 passed out of 1,031, for the Previous LL.B. 195 out of 543, for the Final LL.B. 213 out of 452, and for the B.Sc. 80 out of 162. Compared with the previous year the number of candidates in general showed a considerable increase, but the number of passes actually declined. The total income of the University amounted to Rs. 4,53,230, of which Rs. 2,45,000 was the Government of India's grant and Rs. 1,59,072 the income from fees. The total expenditure of Rs. 4,84,674 included the Government of India's grant of 2 lakhs transferred by the University to the building fund account. The library, the last of the three University buildings, was under construction and should be completed in the ensuing year.

Collegiate education.

269. The total number of students receiving collegiate education rose from 6,494 to 7,121, of whom 5,132 were learning English, 3,401 a classical language, and 301 a vernacular. The number at the English Arts Colleges again increased, from 3,876 to 4,321, and nearly every college is complaining that the size of classes has become so unwieldy as to render adequate tuition impossible at the hands of the existing staff. Additions have been made to the staffs of some colleges, but several still require further strengthening. Some of the colleges are beginning to realize the desirability of confining their activities to the teaching of a limited number of subjects, but neither limitation of functions nor additions to the staff can provide a complete solution of the problem, for there is a point beyond which a single college cannot expand without degenerating into a congeries of class rooms, devoid of organic unity, and lacking in the essentials of a corporate life. The strain was also felt on the accommodation. The new college building for St. Andrew's College, Gorakhpur, towards which Government has contributed Rs. 40,000, was in course of construction, and various improvements and additions were carried out at the Canning College, Lucknow, St. John's College, Agra, and the Ewing Christian College and the Muir Central College at Allahabad, including an electric installation at the last-named. Grants towards the erection of new hostels were given to the Canning College and the Reid Christian College, Lucknow, amounting respectively to Rs. 80,000 and Rs. 60,000. New hostels were brought into use at the Central Hindu College, Benares, and the Ewing Christian College, Allahabad, and a new hostel block was completed at St. John's College, Agra. Oriental colleges increased from 18 to 21 and the number of scholars attending them from 1,470 to 1,529. At the last Benares Sanskrit College examinations 2,759 candidates appeared as against 2,483 in the previous year. Two girl candidates appeared successfully at the Prathama examination. The number of students at the Dar-ul-ulum, Lucknow, fell from 122 to 81, the decrease being partly attributable to the strike in the preceding year; the new buildings of this institution are still incomplete for lack of funds, but efforts are being made to collect subscriptions all over India. The Fazil and Mulla examinations were taken by 61 candidates, of whom 33 passed. The Law Schools registered 693 scholars as against 625 in 1913-14. The University School of Law is now held in its new building; the students attending it increased in number from 365 to 400 and were drawn from all parts of India. The higher division of the department of technology at the Thomason Civil Engineering College, Rurki, has been abolished as students of the right stamp were not forthcoming; a new class described as the

improver grade has been opened in its stead. The number of students at King George's Medical College, Lucknow, rose from 84 to 108. For the first M.B.B.S. examination 33 passed out of 39 appearing, and at the final M.B.B.S. 16 passed out of 19. The hostel for lady students was completed during the year. The total expenditure on collegiate education rose from 16·6 to 17·1 lakhs, of which 3·9 lakhs were from fees. The English colleges absorbed 10½ lakhs, oriental colleges ½ lakh, Engineering 3½ lakhs, Medicine 1 lakh, and Law ½ lakh. The English colleges accounted for the whole of the rise in the aggregate expenditure, and for the larger part of the increase of ·4 lakh in the income from fees.

Secondary education.

270. Notwithstanding the exclusion, under the orders of the Government of India, of the educational statistics of native states from the figures for 1914-15, the number of secondary public schools of all classes for Indian boys rose from 581 to 594 and the number of scholars attending them from 98,084 to 102,042. Out of the total 133 English and 17 vernacular schools were aided or unaided institutions under private management. High schools increased in number from 110 to 113, English middle schools from 71 to 77, and vernacular middle schools from 400 to 404. The number of scholars in English schools rose from 46,385 to 48,538. The demand for secondary education is growing not less rapidly than that for primary education. The expenditure on English schools during the year totalled 20·66 lakhs, or 10 per cent. more than in the year before, and the average cost of education per scholar showed a slight rise. The fee income increased from 8·4 to 9·6 lakhs. The expenditure on vernacular middle schools rose from 5·05 to 5·29 lakhs of which about one quarter was met from fees. A large increase, from 1,997 to 2,251, occurred in the number of candidates from the United Provinces for the University matriculation examination, but the percentage of passes declined from 44 to 36. The poor results have been attributed in part to the tendency to give promotions far too leniently at the annual school examinations, whereby many boys who have not passed obtain promotion—not infrequently through intrigue—and eventually sit for their final examination before they are fit. The readiness of parents and scholars to profit by subterfuge renders this tendency difficult to check. A better percentage of successes, however, was shown at the school leaving certificate examination, where 969 candidates passed out of a total of 1,916. The total represents an increase of 285 on the number appearing for this examination in the previous year. For the vernacular final examination the number of candidates rose from 10,849 to 11,643 and the percentage of passes from 59·38 to 61·62. The standard of secondary education in these provinces, however, is still lamentably low. A new scale of pay has been sanctioned for teachers in Government high schools and a lakh of rupees has been set aside for securing trained teachers for aided schools; these measures should in time bring about some improvement, but much remains to be done. At the end of the year under review the staff in English schools consisted of 2,802 teachers, of whom only 496 were trained teachers. The new buildings for the Government high schools at Pilibhit and Shahjahanpur were completed during the year, as also the new science and manual training block at the Government high school, Bareilly. Among aided schools new buildings were provided with the help of Government for the Gorakhpur high school and for the King Edward high school at Deoria, while various extensions for which Government has given grants were in progress at a number of others. As regards unaided schools, an excellent new building was constructed for the Hewett Kshattriya high school, Benares, while that of the new Meston high school at Ramnagar is second to none in the provinces; the latter has been built and equipped and is maintained by His Highness the Maharaja of Benares. The condition of vernacular school buildings is being steadily improved with the help of the Government grants made to local boards during the last two years. A new hostel was completed for the Victoria high school, Ghazipur, and one was under construction for the Government high school, Unao. Several aided English schools received grants during the year for providing or increasing hostel accommodation. Vernacular

middle schools are rather badly off in this respect. School committees as usual were most unfavourably criticised on the ground that they do not discharge any useful functions.

Primary education.

271. If the figures for native states be excluded for both years, the total number of primary schools of a public character for Indian boys increased from 10,370 in 1913-14 to 10,537 in the year under review. Schools managed by municipal and district boards showed an increase from 6,345 to 6,592, and aided and unaided schools under private management a decrease from 4,022 to 3,942. The progressive decrease in the latter category is largely the result of the boards' policy of taking over the better class of aided institutions. The number of pupils in primary schools rose by 3 per cent. to 576,384, and the total expenditure increased from 20·17 to 21·92 lakhs. The steady increase continued in the number of schools teaching up to the upper primary standard, the total rising from 3,480 to 3,662, and 68,269 scholars read in upper primary classes as against 61,387 in 1913-14. But the proportion for scholars, about 12 per cent., is still extremely low and indicates the serious failure of primary schools under the existing system, for only those who have passed the lower primary stage have begun to acquire anything that can count as education. The position, however, is infinitely worse in aided schools, where only 3,339 boys out of 129,989 have reached the upper primary standard. Aided schools were everywhere reported to be in evil condition. Their staffs are insufficient, their equipment poor, and their accommodation inadequate; their teachers are badly paid and usually unqualified, and the managers take little or no interest. It is anticipated that few of them will survive the introduction of the new grant-in-aid rules formulated as a result of the 1913-14 committee on primary education. With the opening of new training classes every year the number of trained teachers in boards' schools is rapidly increasing, but as yet it has by no means overtaken the demand, the figures in the year under report being 6,063 trained teachers out of 14,683. Accommodation in primary schools is being improved gradually, but only a small portion of the large grants sanctioned by Government for the construction of new buildings for boards' schools was expended during the year. The boards were awaiting the production of standard plans, and in several districts the difficulty of finding honest contractors contributed to the delay. In many districts the improvement of the accommodation in existing schools is a matter of greater urgency than augmenting numbers. The schemes prepared by the boards for the re-organization of the system of elementary education on the lines proposed by the Piggott Committee in most cases had to be revised owing to the inapplicability to local conditions of a hard and fast distribution of schools in the manner suggested. In consequence there is so far little progress to report in re-organization. The half-time system, as introduced experimentally in the Allahabad district in the previous year, is undoubtedly the best for little boys, but hardly seems suited to the needs of those reading in the upper primary stage; for them a four hours or two-thirds-day would be preferable. The system is still under experiment, however, and the results are not yet fully manifest. The question is one that does not admit of disposal on academic considerations alone, since parents cannot be compelled to send their children to school, and those who do send their children frequently prefer to have them taken off their hands for the whole day. Village school committees existed in several districts, but with few exceptions were reported to be apathetic and of little service, while in some cases they have been actually harmful.

Training and supply of teachers.

272. The number of students in the Allahabad Training College increased from 33 to 34, and in the Lucknow Training College from 44 to 54. A satisfactory feature of the year's enrolment at Allahabad was an increase in the number of Muhammadans. The bulk of the material entering the colleges remained distinctly inferior. Under the new scheme of grading, however, the pay of teachers in Government high schools will be much enhanced in the course of a few years and prospects of promotion in the lower ranks greatly improved. The teaching profession should then attract recruits of better calibre. Manual training is now in full swing at both

colleges. At Allahabad 34 students appeared in the examination for the degree of Licentiate in Teaching and 33 passed, while 30 out of 32 candidates from Lucknow were successful in the Diploma examination. It is proposed to establish a third training college at Agra. Despite the demand for trained women teachers the number of candidates at the examination for the certificate of training for teacherships in European girls' schools showed a regrettable falling-off. In the six normal schools for the training of teachers for vernacular schools there were 518 students under training, of whom 254 sat for the vernacular teachers' certificate examination and 217, or 85 per cent., passed. The special efforts that are being made by officers of the department to secure Muhammadan candidates have begun to bear fruit, but the proportion of the latter is still very low. Training classes aggregated 228 as against 184 in the previous year, and the number of pupil teachers attending them rose from 1,096 to 1,365. In some districts reluctance was shown to make full use of the services of the pupil teachers in teaching infant classes, and whole-time teachers were engaged to perform the bulk of the work. This practice is both wasteful and unwise, inasmuch as the pupil teachers have been found to be sufficiently capable and the partial withholding of responsibility is a hindrance to their development. No new class for the training of women teachers was opened during the year owing to the difficulty of securing women competent to act as instructors. The existing training classes, however, contained 117 students, which represents a marked advance, and henceforward numbers should increase yearly. The growth in the number of women candidates appearing at the vernacular teachers' certificate examination is also a hopeful sign, the total rising to 30 for the year under review.

Technical education.

273. A further increase, from 1,741 to 1,970, took place in the number of students in the 34 technical and industrial schools, but the three commercial schools again showed a decline, the total enrolment falling from 138 to 113. The technical schools at Lucknow and Gorakhpur continued to expand. The mechanical apprentice class from the Civil Engineering College, Rurki, was transferred during the year to the Lucknow school, and in addition a new class was formed for oil-engine drivers, to which admissions are to be made in the succeeding year. The number of pupils at the Lucknow school, however, fell from 85 to 81. The Gorakhpur school extended its activities in close co-operation with the Bengal and North-Western Railway, and one of the chief difficulties in the way of its further expansion will be removed before long by the building of a hostel. Passed students from both schools had a very considerable measure of success in obtaining suitable posts. The school of Arts and Crafts at Lucknow started the year with 109 students on its rolls, but by the end of March 1915 the total had risen to 120, and the average daily attendance increased to 105 as against 100 in 1913-14. No less than 72 applicants presented themselves at the entrance examination, but their standard of ability was generally low and only 32 were admitted. The recruitment of boys directly belonging to the trades of silver-workers, blacksmiths, and wood-workers is still unduly small, and at present only goldsmiths are eager to join the school. The school has organized a revised system of scholarships intended to secure a class of students from middle schools specially fitted for the study of design in connection with the industries. The numbers at the Government experimental weaving station at Benares remained the same as in the previous year. The junior first year weaving class already held more than the number admissible, and many applications for admission had therefore to be refused. The number of practical weavers attending the classes slightly increased, but the extreme conservatism of the weaver class and the fact that the workers are to a large extent tied down to their employers by a system of advances render progress slow and difficult. With a view to attracting attention to improved methods of hand-loom weaving the station gave three demonstrations during the year, the first at Benares, the second at the Dadri fair at Ballia, and the third at Tanda. The Principal of the Benares station inspects all the other weaving schools in the province. The work of the latter during the year under report was of a very varied character. A dyeing

school was started at Cawnpore in July 1914. Owing to the cutting off of the supply of German dye-stuffs attention was largely diverted to the exploitation of indigenous dyes. Other details relating to the dyeing school and the weaving schools have been given in section 33 of this report; and a paragraph on the Agricultural College at Cawnpore is included in section 28. The Government carpentry school at Bareilly continued to do useful work, and considerable competition now exists for admission to the junior class, for which a simple entrance examination has been instituted. The result of holding an admission test has been to secure a better educated and more uniform class of students, and as at the school of Arts and Crafts they have proved themselves better able to take advantage of the course. The number of students on the rolls of the Agra medical school rose from 259 to 281. Their attendance was excellent and the result was manifest in the improved standard attained at the annual examination, the female students especially obtaining a very high percentage of marks. Five engineering and surveying schools were open during the year with an aggregate of 85 pupils. The revised scheme for the Technological Institute at Cawnpore has been approved in principle by the Secretary of State, but its materialisation must unfortunately be delayed by the war. The year was marked by the first meetings of the Board of Industries, and a permanent Director of Industries was appointed from the 1st January 1915.

Female education.

274. The number of girls' schools increased from 1,361 to 1,402, of which 1,168 were public and 234 private, the corresponding figures for the previous year being 1,144 and 217 respectively. Schools managed by district and municipal boards showed an increase of 19. Public institutions registered 1,113 more scholars than in 1913-14, but private institutions, despite an increase of 17 schools, returned a loss of 21 scholars. Many of the latter class, however, are of an ephemeral character and no deductions of importance can be drawn from their statistics. Including 14,997 girl pupils in boys' schools, 60,744 girls attended school as against 59,107 in the previous year. The total expenditure on female education rose from 5·01 to 5·37 lakhs, the increase occurring under the head of vernacular schools. The number of students on the rolls of the Isabella Thoburn College at Lucknow rose from 30 to 41, some of whom came from southern India and two even from Ceylon. The results of the examinations, however, were disappointing; for the B. A. examination, four candidates appeared and all failed, while only one out of 12 was successful at the intermediate examination. The college was passing through a financial crisis during the year and was at one time threatened with insolvency; steps are being taken to provide the necessary funds. English secondary public girls' schools increased from 33 to 35, of which all but one were under private management, but the total (3,716) of scholars attending them showed practically no improvement. Vernacular secondary schools totalled 33 with 3,435 pupils as compared with 29 with 2,804 pupils in the preceding year. The number of model schools imparting instruction up to the middle standard rose by 4. At the University matriculation examination 21 girls passed out of 34 appearing; at the Anglo-vernacular middle examination 121 passed out of 182; and at the vernacular final examination 65 out of 133. The number of primary schools increased by 18 and that of their scholars by 416. Out of 1,080 primary public institutions 490 with 16,419 pupils were managed by the boards and 538 with 15,747 pupils were under private management. The number of upper primary schools was swelled by 25 to 251 during the year, but only 1,207 out of 47,787 girls had passed beyond the lower primary stage. Very little real progress therefore has been achieved. Various reasons have been advanced to account for this, such as the difficulty experienced by mistresses in grappling with the crowds of beginners, the pupils' irregular attendance, and the dearth of competent teachers, but the true explanation lies in the widespread and deep-rooted apathy of the people towards female education, and in the strong aversion of parents from the adoption by their daughters of the teaching profession. District female education committees continued as previously to do next to nothing. It was decided during the year to discontinue grants-in-aid to visiting governesses.

Education of special classes.

275. Schools for Europeans and Anglo-Indians open during 1914-15 included 19 boys' and 24 girls' secondary schools, 6 boys' and 4 girls' primary schools, and 15 special, technical, and training schools, all of which were public institutions under private management. The total enrolment at the above schools increased by about 3 per cent. to 5,143, the number of scholars in boys' secondary schools being 2,482, in girls' secondary schools 2,053, and in primary schools 276. No large increase in enrolment was possible as practically all the children of these communities were already attending school, and the rise actually recorded for the year under review was apparently partly nominal and the result of a longer average period of attendance. Of the secondary schools 13 boys, and 16 girls, were high schools. The number of candidates in the high and middle school examinations fell from 200 and 219 to 145 and 194 respectively, but the number entering for the Cambridge local examinations, which are being substituted for the existing high school examinations, rose to 175. The results in the high school examination showed an improvement, 59 per cent. of candidates passing, but at the middle school examination the percentage of successes dropped badly from 74 to 46. The Anglo-Indian hostel at Allahabad continued to do good work, but it depends on the support of the community and the necessary funds for its prolonged existence have not yet been subscribed. The total expenditure on public institutions for Europeans and Anglo-Indians rose from 14·33 to 15·39 lakhs. The chief items of increase in the expenditure from provincial revenues were a special grant of Rs. 65,000 for the purchase of the property of All. Saints Diocesan College, Naini Tal, grants amounting to Rs. 25,500 to certain schools for hostel equipment, and Rs. 8,685 for a science laboratory at St. George's College, Mussooree. The fee income declined by over Rs. 30,000 to 5⅓ lakhs. The enrolment at the Colvin Taluqdars' School at Lucknow fell from 55 to 46, but the attendance was more satisfactory and the standard of work improved. The number of Hindus attending institutions of all kinds rose by 15,234 to 671,266, while that of Muhammadans decreased by 1,563 to 145,586. The decrease in the Muhammadan total was confined to private institutions; in colleges, and secondary and special schools their numbers increased, while in primary schools they remained stationary. Efforts are being made to secure a better enrolment of Muhammadans in primary schools, but the difficulty of securing competent and reliable Muhammadan officers for subordinate posts is at present proving something of an obstacle.

57—Literature and the press.

(See the tables under the head "Printing Presses and Publications," Part VII—Statistics of British India.)

Literary publications.

276. The total number of publications registered during 1914 was 2,042 as against 1,708 in the previous year. The increase occurred mainly under poetry (121), religion (68), miscellaneous (42), law (36), history and geography (36) and fiction (28). Arts, language, philosophy, and voyages and travels showed slight decreases. Publications in Urdu recovered from the decline recorded in 1913 and rose from 308 to 451, while those in Hindi increased from 801 to 951. Arabic publications fell from 11 to 5. Social reformers fully maintained their activity, but their suggestions as usual were highly unpractical though as a rule inspired by praiseworthy ideals. The topics discussed included female education, the condition of women, widow remarriage, physical culture, the uplifting of the agricultural and depressed classes, sea-voyage from the point of view of caste, and reforms in marriage and other customs. *Sadhus* again came in for scathing criticism. The smouldering fire of bigotry blazes up in the romances of Indian chivalry, of which several were published during the year. The Hindu writer depicts the Islamic conqueror in very lurid colours, while the Muhammadan describes with spirit the inferiority in courage and strategy of the Hindu. The facts of history matter very little, if at all, to these writers. The Muhammadan author of historical tales takes for his theme the deeds of arms of Arabians and Turks, and has a Pan-Islamic rather than a national

object, while the Hindu on the other hand is concerned to exalt those who have laid down their lives for India. The Arya Samaj issued a number of books bearing on educational, social, and religious questions, displaying their genuine earnestness for reform ; but no appreciable diminution was noticeable in the rancour of their polemic literature, which was marked as previously by a disregard for truth and reasonableness. The Jains issued some useful classic texts and commentaries and some tracts against cruelty to animals and flesh-eating. The publications of the Radha Swami sect were confined mainly to the sayings and teaching of their spiritual leaders and were non-controversial. In spite of Arya provocation Christian publications have now become conspicuous for their moderation and restraint of language. In Arabic the output was insignificant in quality as in amount, and in Persian the record was little better, though Sufism appeared to be having some vogue. As usual a number of Sanskrit commentaries were produced dealing with philosophical, grammatical, medical, and religious works, some being remarkable for an utter irrelevance to the text. There were also reprints or new editions and in some cases first editions of Sanskrit works of some importance. Polemic publications supplied their usual quota. The differences between various Muhammadan sects, as for example between Shias and Sunnis, accounted as always for a certain number; while among Hindus controversy raged briskly between the adherents of the Sanatan Dharm and those of the Arya Samaj and was responsible for not a few pamphlets. Cow protection was as usual hotly contested by the Sanatan Dharm, the Arya Samaj, and the Jains on one side and by the Muhammadans on the other. Caste literature was abundant and was concerned mainly with the glorification of lower castes. The Indian Press at Allahabad brought out in Hindi a history of Japan and a history of Spain. The former gives a decidedly rosy account of the conditions in Japan. The latter is one of the "Hindi Historical Primer Series," the aim of which is as much political as educational. Another production was a history of India up to date, written in Hindi, from the point of view of the Arya Samaj ; such free play, however, has been allowed in this work to perverted patriotism and racial animosity as to deprive it of historical value. Poems ranged over the whole field of Indian topics. To the European indeed many of the Indian poet's subjects would hardly appear seemly or decorous as themes for versification. Several metrical versions of the Ramayana testified to its undying popularity. Next came the Mahabharat and the Gita. Kali Das too had his votaries, and editions of his works appeared in Urdu, Nepalese, and Bengali. A collection of poems by Mr. Andrews, sometime a member of the Delhi Mission, were reprinted from various papers, and were chiefly noteworthy for their tone in regard to the author's countrymen in India. Fresh editions of the novels of the late Deokinandan Khattri continued to be called for, and no one has yet supplanted him in popular favour. Reynolds, his master, was the next favourite and works of his were again translated in the year under report. Translations both in Urdu and Hindi were also produced of the works of Bankim Chandar Chattarji. English fairy stories and tales from Greek mythology have begun to appear in the vernacular ; the needs of Indian children in this direction have long been overlooked. The best piece of work in Hindi was a rendering of the Sanskrit drama "Uttar Ram Charitra" of Bhava Bhuti ; but it was significant that for stage purposes a different kind of language had to be used. Under the head of language genuine scholarship was little in evidence and the books were mainly readers, grammars, manuals, and the like. Keys and cram books continued to multiply despite all efforts to discourage them. Under law some further useful commentaries were produced by Mr. Agarwala. Medical works consisted chiefly of hand books written to advertise quack medicines, but two well-known Yunani works were translated into Hindi. Astrology, divination, and kindred studies as usual formed the subject of several treatises, and an interesting book was published on mesmerism and hypnotism. A work of practical utility was "The common snakes of India and Burma and how to recognize them" by Major W. H. Cazaly, I.M.S. Among

periodicals the *Indian Thought*, the *Saraswati*, and the *Nagari Pracharini Patrika* continued to appear regularly, and five new periodicals were registered. No issue of the Urdu monthly *Adib* was recorded. Reviewed as a whole the year's output was unusually poor. Possibly this was the effect of the war. Certainly the political pamphleteer was more subdued in tone and religious polemics were less fiery. The paucity of books and pamphlets actually dealing with the war has been remarkable.

The Indian press.

277. The number of newspapers and periodicals printed in the United Provinces increased during the year 1914 from 290 to 317. Classified by language, 68 were in English, 126 in Urdu, and 107 in Hindi. Allahabad provided 56, Lucknow 49, Benares 32, Cawnpore 26, Meerut and Agra 22 each, Moradabad 15, Dehra Dun 13, and Aligarh 11. One of the new publications and 15 of older date ceased to exist during the year. Two of the new papers were printed in English, 12 in Urdu, and 11 in Hindi.

Tone and policy.

278. The clamour against the Press Act persisted, but the action taken under the Act in these provinces did not evoke violent criticism, although every order was greeted with unfavourable comments. The cases of the *Zamindar* (Lahore) and of the *Comrade* and *Hamdard* (Delhi) attracted a good deal of attention. Six printing presses did not open owing to demands for security by the district magistrate, and one was closed during the year in consequence of failure to deposit security required under section 3 (1) of the Act. Inability to furnish the security demanded rendered abortive six attempts to start fresh newspapers, and one existing publication came to an end because the issuing press remained closed for a similar reason. Some 16 other papers and presses received warnings, and the editor of a paper now defunct was twice prosecuted for publishing indecent matter. The general tone of the press was satisfactory. In matters of a non-controversial nature there was a semblance of unanimity, but the Muhammadan papers did not abandon their separatist policy in connection with council representation. The Muslim press also betrayed some signs of resentment and distrust towards the Christian powers generally. Before the war broke out and eclipsed all others topics, some interest was evinced in Persian affairs, and the British Government was urged to discountenance acts of aggression on the part of Russia, on the ground that this was necessary for the safety of India. The outbreak of the war in Europe immediately engaged the attention of the entire press. The reception of the news was marked by a great display of enthusiasm for and devotion to the cause of the Empire. With one solitary exception the press supported the action of Great Britain and was unanimous as to the justice of the cause of the Allies. Germany's methods in precipitating the war and her conduct in Belgium met with universal condemnation. Most papers seemed to be confident in the ultimate triumph of the Allies. Much gratification was expressed at the despatch of Indian troops to the front, and the political significance of the step was eagerly discussed, the majority of papers declaring that Indians would henceforth occupy a position of greater influence in the councils of the Empire. Strong appeals were made that the martial spirit of the people should be restored by the abolition of the Arms Act and the training of educated Indians as volunteers. Turkey's entry into the war was regretted by both sections of the press and described as suicidal. The Muhammadan press generally announced that the war was political and not religious and could not be considered a Jehad. Of necessity the censorship was productive of a number of complaints. Much stress was laid on the opportunities offered by the war for industrial development. Though the opinion was generally voiced that British rule was at present necessary, self-government for India continued to receive much warm advocacy. Unrest in India was attributed to economic rather than to political or social causes. The treatment of Indians in the colonies was discussed with a good deal of lively interest and some heat, while the Komagata Maru venture and the Budge Budge riot were very prominent subjects for a considerable period, and many pleas were put forward on behalf of the Sikh rioters. The systems of indentured labour were condemned. The relations between the different communities in India

were as a favourite a topic as ever. The Hindu-Muhammadan conference convened by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor at Lucknow was coldly received. It was said that the Muhammadan delegates were not representative and that it was hopeless to expect a settlement of racial differences. Much interest was again excited by the proceedings of the Public Services Commission and the demand was constantly made that more of the higher posts should be filled by Indians. Here as elsewhere the question of the relative qualifications of Indian and European proved a source of discontent. Legislative Councils were referred to from time to time as being insufficiently representative of the Indian people, and the Hindu section of the press welcomed the suggested creation of an Executive Council for these provinces. Several papers found time to champion the oft-urged scheme for the more complete separation of the judicial and executive functions, and the official recognition of village panchayats was advocated as a means of saving the rural population much needless litigation. The actual work of the police department came in for little criticism, though various reforms were proposed from time to time, including the improvement of the pay and prospects of the lower grades. The budget debate attracted a good deal of notice and it was suggested that more money should be devoted to education and sanitation. The Government of India's resolution on sanitation was received with satisfaction. Educational questions as usual occupied a leading position. The Government policy of placing efficiency before extension was undoubtedly unpopular, and complaints were general that education was too much officialized. Aligarh College affairs aroused more than ordinary attention in the Muhammadan press, and the students' strikes at the Medical College, Lucknow, the Balwant Rajput high school, and the Nadwat-ul-ulama occasioned some criticism of authority. Municipal affairs were discussed mainly in the local papers, the necessity for separate communal representation being strongly pressed by the Muhammadans. Excise policy was freely debated and public opinion was inclined to welcome any legislation aiming at social reform even though entailing a loss of revenue. The forest settlement in Kumaun called forth some opposition from the Kumaun papers. The enactment of the Contempt of Courts Bill stimulated a general outcry in the press. The champions of the Hindi and Urdu languages continued their controversy, and religious matters took up a good deal of space. References appeared from time to time in certain papers to the reconstruction of the demolished portion of the Machli Bazar mosque at Cawnpore, and the Muharram disturbances, especially those at Agra and Shahabad (Hardoi), and the cow-protection movement in general were argued with great bitterness. Criticism was also directed against the Arya Samaj and its attitude towards other religions. The rise in the price of food stuffs was naturally a constant theme.

58—Literary societies.

(*See page* 92 *of the report for the year* 1911-12.)

59—Arts and sciences.

(*For details see the annual report of the Lucknow provincial museum for the year ending* 31*st March*, 1915.)

279. The picture gallery and the ethnic court were thrown open to visitors, and the antiquities unearthed at Kasia in the Gorakhpur district were arranged and exhibited in a special room which was also opened to the public. The arms which were lying in the old museum building were brought over and displayed in suitable cases. All the exhibit rooms except the Saheth-Maheth room are now open to the general public. Progress was made with the classification of the coins, but the issue of the catalogue of the archaeological section had to be postponed. A class was started in the museum at which the curator delivered a course of illustrated lectures on archaeology. Including exhibits on loan 545 specimens were acquired during the year. Of these 169 were ethnographical, 121 belonged to the picture

gallery section, and 227 were classed under numismatics. The last item included 180 coins acquired by the Local Government as treasure trove. The registered number of visitors to the museum was 105,205, but 741 *pardanashin* ladies and 670 *bonâ fide* students should be added to this total. The receipts for the year amounted to Rs. 461, and the expenditure to Rs. 14,474; the net cost of the institution to Government was thus Rs. 14,013, or Rs. 1,986 less than in the preceding year.

CHAPTER VIII.—ARCHAEOLOGY.

60—Archaeology.

(*For details see the annual reports of the Superintendent, Muhammadan and British Monuments, Northern Circle, and of the Superintendent, Hindu and Buddhist Monuments, Northern Circle, for the year ending* 31*st March* 1915.)

Conservation.

280. The amount spent on the conservation of Muhammadan and British monuments in the United Provinces was Rs. 63,853 as against Rs. 60,513 in the previous year. The monuments brought under the operation of the Preservation of Ancient Monuments Act during the year included the Begam's Palace and the tombs of the cemetery at Sardhana (Meerut), the tombs of Shah Pir and Abu Muhammad Khan, Meerut, the Akbari Sarai at Chhata in the Muttra district, the Dhakri-ka-Mahal building near Sikandra (Agra), and Nasiruddin Hyder's Karbala, Lucknow. Rs. 6,263 out of Rs. 13,263 sanctioned for improvements to the Jami Masjid, Agra, were expended in erecting the arcades on the east and south sides. The work is still in progress. Minor improvements also were made in the Agra Fort. At Fatehpur Sikri the replacing of the broken marble beams in the roof of Sheikh Salim Chishti's tomb and special repairs to the Khanqah attached to the Dargah and to the Dargah building itself were carried out at a total cost of Rs. 2,489. Only slight progress was made with the restoration of the causeway leading from the east false gateway to the tomb of Akbar at Sikandra; about one-fifth of the whole causeway has now been restored and the work will be continued as funds become available. The conservation of Miriam's tomb at Sikandra was almost finished and the replacing of the missing inlay work at the tomb of Itimaduddaulah was completed. Besides the special repairs mentioned above, Rs. 14,320 were spent on annual repairs and maintenance charges at the Agra Fort, the Taj Mahal, and the various historical buildings in the Agra district. Conservation work was continued at the tomb of Iftikhar Khan at Chunar, and repairs to various buildings were executed at Jaunpur. At Lucknow special repairs to the Begam's Kothi cost Rs. 8,166, and the conservation of the Nandan Mahal Rs. 2,522; the latter work, however, is not yet complete. In all some Rs. 24,000 was spent on the numerous Lucknow monuments. The remaining historical buildings which received special attention during the year comprised the Maqbara of Nawab Diler Khan at Shahabad (Hardoi), the tomb of Lord Cornwallis and the closed British cemetery at Ghazipur, the British monument at Aurangabad (Kheri), and the closed cemetery and other monuments at Benares. The amount devoted to the conservation of Hindu and Buddhist monuments in these provinces increased from Rs. 1,072 to Rs. 3,915. The bulk of this was spent on improvements at the Sarnath museum (Benares) and on the steps taken to preserve the structural remains recovered by excavations at Sarnath in previous years. Rs. 941 was spent on annual repairs to the Asoka pillar at Bhitri (Ghazipur), the Asoka column at Kalsi (Dehra Dun), the Bindraban temples (Muttra), and the Buddhist remains at Kasia (Gorakhpur) and Saheth-Maheth (Gonda and Bahraich). Estimates were prepared for the removal of the inappropriate cement covering which crowns the Dhamekh Stupa at Sarnath, and estimates were also prepared and approved for the conservation of Sita Ramji's temple at Soron (Etah). During the year 17 shrines and temples in the Almora district were brought under the operation of the Protection of Ancient Monuments Act.

Exploration.

281. Some Muhammadan inscriptions were collected in the Bulandshahr, Aligarh, and Mainpuri districts. In the Muttra district the honorary curator of the museum examined a number of wells and succeeded in recovering from them and a few other sites more than 150 objects of archaeological interest, which were added to the museum. It may be

mentioned that the Muttra museum was presented during the year with a private collection of 2,200 books in Sanskrit, Hindi, Bengali, Gujrati, Marathi, Persian, Urdu, and English. Extensive exploration was carried out at Sarnath (Benares). At one spot was a filling two feet deep of débris of Mauryan and Sunga remains, which yielded 317 fragments, consisting mainly of portions of figures, pillars, and the like. Some of the heads found were of great artistic interest, inasmuch as they show a far more advanced technique than the only statues previously assigned to this period. Besides these, and in addition to structural discoveries, the excavations revealed a mass of small stupas, ruined shrines, pedestals of images, sculptures, inscriptions, and architectural fragments—428 objects in all. None, however, were earlier than the Gupta period. The chief finds were several beautiful and excellently preserved Buddha images belonging to this period. The pedestals of three of these bore important inscriptions throwing light upon the dates of some of the Gupta kings. In all 73 inscriptions were obtained from the various sites at Sarnath ranging from the Mauryan period to mediæval times. A tour in the Jhansi district yielded several notable epigraphs and proved that this district is almost unrivalled in both the number and the interest of its monuments and remains. Efforts for their investigation and conservation are to be made in the ensuing year. An inscription of Sita Ramji's temple at Soron (Etah) led to the discovery on pillars, of further inscriptions which had hitherto been concealed by plaster. The total cost of the Sarnath exploratory operations was Rs. 3,609. The antiquities recovered have been placed in the Sarnath museum, of which catalogue has now been published.

LIBRARY OF THE BOMBAY BRANCH OF THE ROYAL ASIATIC

CHAPTER IX.—MISCELLANEOUS.

61—Ecclesiastical jurisdiction.

(*See page* 94 *of the report for the year* 1911-12.)

62—Ecclesiastical.

282. The year was uneventful.

63—Stationery.

Stationery.

283. The total value of stationery stores supplied to these provinces during 1914-15 was Rs. 4,97,701 as against Rs. 4,68,364 in the preceding year. The increase in the total was more than accounted for by the rise in the value of stationery issued to printing presses from Rs. 3,51,186 to Rs. 3,81,354. That issued to officers declined in value from Rs. 1,17,178 to Rs. 1,16,347. The principal variations under departmental heads of accounts were—increases of Rs. 1,598 under Land Revenue, of Rs. 1,883 under Police, and of Rs. 30,168 under Stationery and Printing, and a decrease of Rs. 4,212 under Public Works. The increase under Land Revenue was due to the equipment of the settlement office at Basti, newly opened during the year ; that under Police to the supply of pen-carbon paper ; and that under Stationery and Printing to the heavy demand for paper and binding materials from the Government Press.

64—General miscellaneous.

Government Press.

284. The receipts of the Government Press for 1914-15 amounted to Rs. 1,39,131, and though exceeding the budget estimate they showed a decrease of Rs. 12,846 compared with the actual figures for the previous year. The decrease was chiefly noticeable under stock forms, work done for bodies financially independent of Government, and sale of waste paper. The receipts in 1913-14, however, were exceptionally high. Although Rs 66,265 under the estimate, the expenditure rose considerably from Rs. 7,37,641 to Rs. 7,95,478. The increase was due to the payment of scarcity allowances, the adjustment of railway freight accounts, heavier expenditure on postage for the distribution of war bulletins, and the increased work of the press. The outturn of printing and binding work done for the various Government departments was much higher than in previous years, rising in value from Rs. 6,23,024 to Rs. 6,92,858. The main causes of increase were the cost of printing the war bulletins and the revision of the irrigation forms. Work to the amount of Rs. 47,747 was given out to private firms. The cost per page in the composing branch rose from Rs. 1-5-2 to Rs. 1-5-5. The number of publications received under the Press and Books Act during the year was 2,026, of which 485 were reprints and 1,541 original works. The copyrights of 351 books were registered. The principal publishing centres were Allahabad (351), Benares (340), Lucknow (380), Cawnpore (188), Aligarh (121), Moradabad (110), Meerut (80), and Muttra (74). During 1914-15 the book depot distributed 2½ millions of copies in English, Urdu, and Hindi of the war bulletins prepared by the press bureau.

REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION

OF THE

UNITED PROVINCES OF AGRA AND OUDH,

1915-1916.

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REPORT

ON THE

Administration of the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh,

1915-16.

PART I.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

Changes in the administration.

1. The Honourable Sir James Scorgie Meston, K.C.S.I., was Lieutenant-Governor of the provinces throughout the year.

Political.

2. Each of the three native states within the boundaries of the United Provinces continued to contribute towards the active prosecution of the war. A detachment of Rampur Imperial Service Lancers was sent to convoy horses to Europe: officers and men were also lent to train remounts in Indian depôts. Imperial Service Sappers from Tehri remained on active service. A number of horses and tents was lent by His Highness the Maharaja of Benares for war purposes. In addition the ruling chiefs of the three States subscribed handsomely to war funds.

Condition of the people.

3. In 1914 the monsoon had proved a disappointment in the kharif and rabi seasons. Rainfall was abundant till the second week of September, when a prolonged break occurred and resulted in the kharif crop turning out indifferently. Moisture was sufficient for sowing the rabi crop, but the persistence of dull and cloudy weather with constant showers throughout February and March ruined the prospects of a bumper harvest. The feature of the 1915 monsoon was its irregularity. Rain was ample in all districts for kharif sowings except in parts of Agra and Meerut divisions, which suffered from a short supply. On the other hand there were floods in Gorakhpur, Fyzabad, and Allahabad divisions. The outturn of the kharif crop was generally below normal. A long spell of drought followed which further damaged the crop prospects in the western districts. The break did not come till the end of February and beginning of March, when the late rains did considerable damage to the wheat crop. Other crops, however, and in particular the gram crop did well. On the whole the rabi harvest was a good one. Generally, except in Agra and parts of the Meerut division, the harvests proved satisfactory. Prices of wheat varied in accordance with export demands. Up to the end of 1915 large stocks of wheat were accumulated in the hopes that Government would relax the restrictions on export. With the continuance of the embargo and the advent of new crops prices began to ease off. The prices of barley and gram rose and fell in sympathy with that of wheat. Rice remained at a steady figure throughout the year. Cotton prices improved, but failed to touch those commanded before the outbreak of the war. The demand for labour and wages still remained high. Trade exhibited a return to the normal, a curtailment in imports being set off by a larger expansion in exports. The year 1915 on the whole proved very healthy. Plague returns showed a gratifying decline. On the other hand a

severe epidemic of cholera broke out after the Kumbh *mela* at *Hardwar*. Cattle disease, particularly rinderpest, was considerably restricted.

Land revenue.

4. The total demand from all sources of revenue under the control of the Board of Revenue for the year ending 30th September, 1915, was 10·38 crores, representing an increase of 1·28 crores on the total of the preceding year. Nearly two-thirds of this consisted of *taqavi* dues. The net enforceable demand of land revenue rose from 6·51 to 6·96 crores and almost the whole of this was collected with the exception of three lakhs which was remitted and four lakhs suspended. In spite of the improved monsoon, irrigation was much in demand, particularly in the districts which suffered from drought. The demand for agricultural advances decreased considerably from 1·91 crores to 42·87 lakhs. A number of wells and *bandhs* was constructed and many tanks were excavated. Collections were pushed, in view of better crop returns, and this accounted for an increase in the number of processes of all kinds of 31 per cent.

Settlement.

5. Settlement operations were in hand in many districts and the increase in work led to the appointment of a Settlement Commissioner for five years with effect from 1st November, 1914. The settlements of Etawah, Fatehpur, and parts of Pilibhit were completed and resulted in appreciable enhancements. The assessment of the Kashipur tahsil in the Naini Tal district was sanctioned. In Allahabad the assessment of the tracts under settlement was finished. A settlement officer was appointed in Basti and an additional one in Gorakhpur. A start was made with map-correction in Bulandshahr. Quinquennial assessments in Bundelkhand which had been held over were completed. A revised settlement in the Bhabar Estate led to a reduction of revenue.

Land records.

6. The cadre of supervisor qanungos under the department of Land Records was increased by ten and various improvements were effected in the pay of the subordinate establishment under the Pike scheme. The rise in the proportion of certificated patwaris was maintained. Patwaris' circles were revised in the Ghazipur and Meerut districts. The testing of records reached the standard in every district except Etawah where settlement operations were in progress. Map-correction was carried out in the Bulandshahr and Basti districts, and revision of records was begun in the Deoria portion of the Gorakhpur district. The fixation of permanent boundary marks in the alluvial tracts of the Ballia district could not be undertaken for want of a competent surveyor.

Court of Wards.

7. The Court of Wards continued to prove a benefactor to indebted estates. Sixteen estates were taken over and 22 were released, the number under superintendence at the end of the year being 196. Due care was taken in considering the proposals for superintendence, assumption being refused in 12 cases, in seven of which the proprietors applied themselves. The income of the estates showed a slight increase. Considering that the year was on the whole a disappointing one from the cultivators' point of view, the percentage of collection to demand was satisfactory. Owing to the fact that money was scarce and property unsaleable, little progress was made with liquidation of debts, while Government took over loans amounting to 20 lakhs which had already been made to several estates. A considerable sum was spent on improvements, which consisted chiefly of well-construction and repair. Another matter in which estates took a great interest was the

supply of improved seed to the tenants. Cattle-breeding received a good deal of attention from the management, which also studied the educational, sanitary, and medical needs of the tenantry. The advisory committees rendered valuable assistance in matters of ceremony and the like. Their development lies largely in the hands of district officers.

Rent litigation.

8. There was a large rise in rent litigation in Agra, of no less than 28 per cent. In Oudh a fall actually occurred in institutions which was more than covered by the drop in resumption cases, due to the fact that the period for resumption in most cases expired at the end of 1913. Suits for arrears of rent in Agra showed a noticeable increase of 43 per cent. and were prompted by a natural desire on the part of the landlords in a good year to recoup their losses of the previous year. A corresponding rise was recorded in suits for ejectment and enhancement, the latter receiving an additional stimulus from the settlement operations pending in Allahabad, Etawah, and Fatehpur. Ejectments on grounds other than a decree for arrears of rent rose to the highest figures yet attained under the new Act. Surrenders were fewer in number owing to improved agricultural conditions. The area protected by occupancy rights continued to grow. A considerable improvement in outturn of the courts in Agra led to a reduction in the balance of cases pending at the end of the year. Appeals in both Agra and Oudh increased in number; in the former owing to the large number of cases decided, and in the latter because of resumption cases. A decline in the number of applications for partitions facilitated a considerable reduction in the pending file. Cases of transfer and succession fell in number, the former owing to improved crop prospects and the latter because of the decreased mortality in the year under review.

Police.

9. The volume of crime increased slightly in the year under review. The rise was mainly due to the operation of the Criminal Tribes Act and to other special or local Acts: minor offences against property showed a gratifying decrease. The most striking increase occurred in dacoity cases, which still remain remarkably prevalent in many of the more lawless districts. Robberies declined and burglaries rose in number. The percentage of convictions in cases investigated by the police diminished for the sixth year in succession. One of the chief causes responsible for this decline is undoubtedly economic. The rise in the standard of living and the rapid alteration in prices have greatly lowered the real remuneration of all ranks. For the moment the most urgent requirement is the improvement in the pay of constables and head constables—this fact has been emphasized by the large number of resignations and desertions in the year under review—but the need for a revision of pay applies to the service generally. The problem is one of the most urgent of the administration and must be faced as soon as the revenues of the province are improved. The Criminal Tribes Act continued to be effective in curtailing local crime and more attention was paid to the need of inflicting adequate sentences for the breach of the Act. The Criminal Investigation department had a busy year, particularly in the matter of political crime. Probably the most important case of the whole year was the Benares conspiracy case, which revealed one branch of wide ramifications aiming at the subversion of British rule in India. The successful prosecution of this case was eminently creditable to the police. A few additions were made to the railway police. Road chaukidars continued

to be failures. To sum up, a complete revision of pay is imperatively demanded: in no other way can a police force be secured adequate to the needs of this important province.

Criminal justice. 10. Improved agricultural conditions were responsible for a slight decrease in crime in both Agra and Oudh. Sentences of death and transportation likewise declined in both provinces. There was, however, a regrettable increase under dacoities: under other heads the variations were unimportant.

Prisons. 11. The increase in the jail population was due rather to the larger number of convicts remaining at the beginning of the year than to any great increase in the number imprisoned during the year. The continuance of high prices of food grains led to a lower standard of health among the prisoners admitted, a factor which accounted for the increase in mortality. Jail offences were more numerous than last year although not proportionally so to the increased jail population. An unsatisfactory feature of the year was the increased number of escapes, some of which were undoubtedly due to laxity on the part of the subordinate staff. Owing to the deputation of nearly all I. M. S. men on war service the supervision of jails had to be entrusted to retired medical officers and assistant civil surgeons. The juvenile jail at Bareilly as usual did admirable service and its development is hampered only by lack of accommodation. A satisfactory increase in the income from jail industries was maintained for the sixth year in succession.

Civil justice. 12. Suits and applications for execution of decrees increased in both Agra and Oudh. The value of suits also rose, especially in Oudh, owing to the high value of individual suits. Appeals in all superior courts, except in Kumaun, exhibited a decrease. Village and honorary munsifs improved their outturn.

Registration. 13. Prevailing high prices and trade depression naturally led to an increase in the number of registered documents, especially in the Meerut and Rohilkhand divisions which had suffered from drought. Both receipts and expenditure in the registration department rose in consequence.

Municipalities. 14. The new Municipal Bill had not become law by the end of the year under report. Hence no comments are needed as to its reception or as to the substantial changes it will involve. The rise in the number of contested elections of municipal members and the enhanced attendance of voters at the polls are welcome signs of a growing interest in urban politics. Although meetings of the boards were on the whole satisfactorily attended a tendency was noticeable in many cases to shirk the hard work of sub-committees. Final instructions were still awaited from the Government of India on the proposals of the informal committee of representatives which met in December, 1914, to draw up a schedule of rates for terminal taxation in place of octroi. The continued unpopularity of direct taxation can be lessened only by the growth of responsibility and a sense of public duty on the part of the tax-payers and by a gradual appreciation of the benefits to be derived from freedom of trade. In many municipalities arrangements for the assessment and collection of direct taxes left much to be desired, while in others the tax proved insufficient. Octroi, which was abolished in two more municipalities during the year under review, yielded an increased income under all heads except that of tobacco. The yield of taxes other than octroi was also appreciably enhanced, the most notable instance being

that of water rate, which was introduced into three new municipalities during the year. The income from sources other than taxation also showed a gratifying increase. As a net result of the above improvements municipal income rose from 88·71 to 94·42 lakhs, a figure which may be considered as normal. Progress was made under the direction of the Improvement Trusts. In Allahabad the bulk of the expenditure was incurred on the acquisition of land for the two new Trust roads; in Cawnpore the new A B road was opened to traffic in July, 1915: further innovations were delayed pending the receipt of the report of the committee appointed to consider the expansion of the city. In Lucknow an exceptional situation was caused by the heavy floods of September, 1915, the distress being energetically relieved by the local authorities with the help of local and imperial grants, and the advice of Professor Geddes proving of great assistance in the work of replanning.

Municipal expenditure declined from 95·7 to 92·5 lakhs, the decrease being partially due to an effort to cut down expenses during the war. Economies were effected in services, notably under the head of conservancy due to a fall in the price of fodder. The expenditure on public works fell from 12·48 to 10·27 lakhs. It is a matter for regret that several boards failed to maintain their roads in proper condition. The capital expenditure on water works and drainage which slightly exceeded last year's figures again testifies to municipal activities in these directions and to the calls upon the time and energies of the Sanitary Board. The replacement of the present shallow and badly graded surface drains by a scientific sewerage system, although costly, should lead to a great improvement in the health of the large urban population. The absence of the non-recurring grant of one lakh made by the Government of India in 1914-15 led to a reduction of nearly a lakh under educational expenditure. Part of the additional recurring provincial grant of Rs. 80,000 was expended in paying half the salaries of the newly appointed superintendents of schools in the municipalities of Allahabad, Lucknow and Benares. Many municipalities still fail to expend 5 per cent. of their normal income on education. Public health in municipalities was on the whole satisfactory, the birth rate being the second highest on record for the last 35 years while the death rate though higher than that of last year did not rise in the same proportion. The figures for infantile mortality declined to some extent, but still indicate lamentable ignorance and carelessness on the part of the urban population. The indifference of the people to the need of engaging trained midwives, an evil which can be combated only by patient work and by the example of the more enlightened classes, is one of the main causes of the deplorable mortality among children of under one year.

District Boards.

15. In spite of an increase in disbursements boards have not yet worked up to the standards fixed for them by the Local Government more especially under the head of Education, expenditure upon which is still $5\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs below the allotment. The high total balances of $75\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs are due partly to a policy of economy prescribed by Government during the war, and partly to the inability of boards to carry out their programme owing to the difficulty of getting good contractors, the laziness of sub-overseers and delays on the part of district surveyors, thus affording evidence not so much of prosperity as of inability to spend. Only under the

head of General Administration was the budget grant exceeded in certain districts, the excess being due to the entertainment of paid secretaries. Deficits were however met by transfers from other heads. The opening balances of boards amount to 77 lakhs or 13½ lakhs more than in the previous year. Excluding the opening balances, deposits, advances and provincial contributions the income actually fell from 93·27 to 91·13 lakhs, the chief decrease being one of 1·27 under the head civil works. Expenditure chargeable to current income rose by 7·62 lakhs to 111·78 lakhs of which civil works absorbed nearly half. The chief interest in educational matters is connected with the introduction of the Piggott scheme for the improvement of primary education but the measure was carried out too late in the year to allow of any opinion being formed as to its results. The number of trained teachers continues to be sadly deficient and the method of training leaves much to be desired, bad teaching being partially accountable for the stagnation prevalent in preparatory classes. Efforts were made in a few districts to give a simple practical education in agricultural subjects. and some popularity was attained, but the subject really amounts to nothing more than nature study applied to Indian conditions. In Gorakhpur commercial classes have been opened in schools in commercial centres in consequence of the success attained by private schools teaching such subjects. In addition districts have begun to take an active interest in education of a more definitely technical kind, a notable result being the formation of a weaving school at Muzaffarnagar. Female education continued to lag behind owing to the dearth of lady teachers. The new scheme provides for the extension of village school committees the success of whose labours will depend largely on the degree of responsibility with which they are invested and on the support meted out to them by the district boards. Hospitals and dispensaries maintained their popularity, while travelling dispensaries proved their efficacy in outbreaks of cholera and notably during the floods at Lucknow. The levying of fees for quininization in schools has provoked the hostility of the parents in certain quarters but the scheme is to be continued on account of its undoubted utility. Though the administration of sanitation through panchayats in selected villages has led to very varying results in different districts the experiment is one that merits an extended trial. The question of the efficient repair of unmetalled roads is still one of difficulty, no mechanical device having yet been found to replace hand labour, but the system of employing permanent gangs on such roads has been instituted with good results in many districts. The entire staff of veterinary assistants was provincialized with effect from April 1st, 1916. Unfortunately owing to the war the full staffs were not available. The vexed question as to the utility of peripatetic veterinary assistants has not yet been finally settled. The public are gradually coming to realize the advantage of cattle inoculation although prejudices still linger in a few districts. The few experiments which have been made in the devolution of powers to tahsili committees justify the belief that when equipped with definite powers and responsibilities they will relieve headquarters of a mass of routine work and will contribute materially to the solution of local problems.

Agriculture.

16. Development in agriculture was hampered owing to the demands made by the war on the personnel of the staff. Research work in connection

with cotton suffered severely from the heavy rains which destroyed many of the crops. Interesting experiments were made with a view to obtaining more sucrose from sugarcane and it appears that there is considerable scope for a profitable replacement of the indigenous varieties by Java samples. Satisfactory results were obtained from the sugar-crushing plant of Mr. Hulme, which can be used either as a cane-crusher or *gur*-maker. Attempts were made to systematize the introduction of Pusa wheat into Oudh and the Benares and Allahabad divisions. The distribution of different varieties of seed continued to take up most of the time of the department, whose efforts had to be supplemented by the help of private depôts, especially in Oudh. The increase in indigo-cultivation gave a stimulus to the installation of mechanical water-supply in the Doab: progress in this direction was considerably restricted by the cost of machinery and the delay experienced in obtaining plant owing to the war. Fruit-bottling promises to be a profitable industry when once the difficulties of transport and of glass-manufacture are overcome. Attempts were made to promote the use of different manures. Well-borers were withdrawn from the submontane tracts and their services were utilized in sinking tube wells which are gaining in popularity year by year. The courses at Cawnpore Agricultural College proved popular, especially the two years' course, one of the gratifying results being that pupils intend to use the knowledge gained there not so much with a view to obtaining Government service, as in order to take up agricultural work in a private capacity.

Civil Veterinary department.

17. An important feature of the administration of the Civil Veterinary department was the provincialization, under the control of the Superintendent, Civil Veterinary department, with effect from the 1st April, 1916, of the entire staff of veterinary assistants employed by district boards. The change in supervision will make for increased efficiency in the department. Important changes were made in the organization of the department. There will eventually be three circles in the provinces, each in charge of a superintendent with three subordinate sub-divisions under the charge of deputy superintendents. Up to the present only two circles with headquarters at Lucknow and Meerut have been formed with sub-divisions at Bareilly and Allahabad. The department continued to do popular work, especially among the rural population. The year witnessed a remarkable fall in contagious disease: the decline was chiefly notable in the case of rinderpest, deaths from which were a little over a fifth of last year's figures: the result was due to the fact that inoculation campaigns were started wherever the disease broke out. It is a matter for regret that the higher castes are not yet ready to accept the advantages of inoculation, with the result that enforced inoculation may have to be legalized. The increase of veterinary hospitals and dispensaries by over 25 per cent. naturally led to an increase in the number of patients treated. The travelling dispensary in Etawah district proved a popular institution. As usual, considerable attention was paid to the supply of stud animals for the breeding of cattle, ponies, donkeys, and sheep: bulls were lent to district boards and co-operative societies and cross-bred rams were lent to Court of Wards' estates with a view to improve stock. Efforts were made to interest cultivators in these matters by the distribution of bulletins and by lantern lectures at various agricultural exhibitions. Numerous experiments were made with regard to diseases of sheep and cattle at the Lucknow research laboratory.

Co-operative societies.

18. The adverse conditions which prevailed at the end of the preceding year were aggravated rather than relieved by the end of the year under review, with the result that the net indebtedness of co-operative societies was increased by over a lakh. Towards this unfortunate result there were several contributory causes. In the first place the monsoon was very unevenly divided and it was weakest where the societies were normally strongest. In the second place landlords took advantage of the improved crop prospects to press for payment of rents, money-lenders for repayment of loans due, and Government for collection of *taqavi*. In the third place, the war, high prices, and general uncertainty caused the cultivator to keep what he could in his own pocket. In spite however of the depressing influences at work quiet progress was made in several directions. Central societies increased both their paid-up capital and reserve funds. All the central banks, except two, worked at a profit. The societies continued to pursue their policy of curtailing their dealings with individuals and confining themselves to local societies. Full advantage was taken of the 4 per cent. conversion loan, a lakh and a half being purchased with conversion rights. Rural and urban societies both increased their working capital: advances to individual societies were necessarily restricted owing to the general tightness of the money market. Among urban societies the unlimited liability companies suffered in the same manner as in the previous year owing to the war. On the other hand, the limited liability companies and the non-credit urban societies on the whole did well. The co-operative movement continued to exert a good moral and social influence. The societies remained in close touch with the Agricultural and Civil Veterinary departments and took the greatest interest in all agricultural improvements and in stock-breeding. No progress was made in the matter of expediting liquidation proceedings as the number of bankrupt societies rose considerably in the year under review.

Forests.

19. A gratifying recovery in the timber market led to a rise of about 28 per cent in revenue derived from forests and a considerable increase in the outturn of timber and fuel. Although the resin industry in Kumaun also showed an increased outturn and profit, the year was marred by an unfortunate fire at the Bhawali distillery when damage was done to the extent of nearly half a lakh and distillation had to be stopped for several weeks to allow of repairs being done. The distillery plant and saw-mill both did well. A regrettable feature of the year was the large increase in forest fires, most of which were undoubtedly due to incendiarism. The sleeper contract again proved a heavy tax on the department and has, since the close of the year, been cancelled by the Government of India. The Settlement Officers who had been working on the settlements of Kumāun circle finished their work. The year witnessed the creation of a General Direction Division and important changes in all the circles.

Manufactures and trades.

20. Cotton mills and sugar factories both rose in number and it seems that the latter are about to witness a revival of prosperity. Lac factories in Mirzapur again did very well although the fluctuation in prices would appear to indicate a speculation which might have disastrous results. Two new tanneries were started soon after the close of the year in answer to the demands of the war. The oil-pressing factories will develop as soon as normal conditions are restored. The Bareilly match factory had to

struggle hard against Japanese competition which however waned in strength towards the end of the year. The Central Emporium at Cawnpore had its utility restricted by the unbusiness-like methods of the smaller manufacturers. Trade returns indicate a return to the normal, a fall in imports being set off by a larger rise in exports. Imports showed a decline in coal and coke, dyes, grain and pulses, marble and stone, and a rise in cotton, largely foreign goods, tanning materials and raw sugar products. In export trade the chief rise was in hay and straw, grain and pulses, lac, oilseeds, saltpetre and raw sugar products; cotton exports fell off in weight but increased in value. Internal rail-borne traffic fell appreciably owing to improved harvests, while the river-borne trade between these provinces and Calcutta revived considerably. Imports from Tibet and Nepal went up in weight although falling in value in the latter case. Exports from Tibet increased, while those from Nepal declined. Tibet was anxious to get the more expensive finished commodities in return for animals and raw goods.

Public works.

21. The actual expenditure on buildings and roads fell from 136½ to 131½ lakhs: famine relief works accounted for only Rs. 8,896 instead of 8½ lakhs, while 6·4 lakhs was spent on imperial works. Under the last head operations were mainly confined to the postal department and to the requirements of the bacteriological department at Bareilly and Mukhtesar. In addition the subsidiary buildings of the Forest Research Institute at Dehra Dun were completed. Among provincial and local buildings by far the most important was the new High Court at Allahabad which absorbed more than a quarter of the total annual outlay for construction: other notable works were the new civil courts at Budaun, the residence for Professors at La Martinière College, Lucknow, and the two hostels and law library for the Allahabad University. The construction of educational buildings alone absorbed over 3 lakhs. Some 97 miles were added to the total length of metalled roads. Among bridges the most notable was that over the Suswa, which was formally opened by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor in February of the year under review. Electric light and power schemes were again to the fore both in municipalities and in public buildings. Companies were successfully floated in Lucknow and Allahabad, but capital was not forthcoming for the Agra and Benares schemes. A complete project was prepared for a hydro-electric scheme at Naini Tal. The development of sanitary works is mentioned separately in paragraph 28 below. Revised rates of pay were introduced for the subordinate establishment.

Canals and irrigation.

22. The capital expenditure on irrigation slightly exceeded last year's total of 27 lakhs. The chief protective works were concerned with the Ghori and Ghaggar canals in Mirzapur district, the Majhgawan tank in the Hamirpur district, the Barwar lake and canal in the Jhansi district, and various improvements in the Dhasan canal. The Ghori canal was completed and the Majhgawan tank practically so. The main item in the programme of productive works was the construction of the new weir for the Ganges canal at Bhimgoda: progress was also made with the Gorai canal in Mirzapur. Of the schemes under consideration by far the most important was that of the Sarda-Kichha feeder project with its adjunct the Oudh canal project. The estimate for the former, amounting to two crores, was submitted to the Government of India, while the survey of the latter was completed. Surveys of the following works were also finished: the

Khurra reservoir on the Dhasan river canal, the Kapra reservoir on the Betwa river, a canal from the Urmal river and several tanks in Bundelkhand. Financial results continued to be satisfactory. The net revenue amounted to 83½ lakhs or 6·92 of the total capital outlay, while the net profits, after paying interest charges, amounted to 44½ lakhs as against 45½ lakhs in the previous year. The terms of the provincial contract whereby the Government of India guarantee to make up any deficiency below 55½ lakhs in the net revenue from major works remained unchanged. The net profit from major productive work exclusive of interest payable to the Government of India amounted approximately to 65½ lakhs. This was the third year since the enforcement of the contract in 1909 that the guarantee had been exceeded, the margin being nearly 10 lakhs. The total area of crops irrigated showed a slight fall, but their total value and the average value per acre both increased.

Excise.

23. The decline in the consumption of country spirit, which began after the agricultural failure in 1913-14, continued owing to high prices and trade depression. Real receipts fell from 1·24 to 1·21 crores. Consumption of country spirit declined by 7·9 per cent. and total receipts by 6·3 per cent. In spite of the fall in consumption still-head duty showed a satisfactory increase from 44·96 to 45·45 lakhs. Enhancement of duty took effect in two-thirds of the provinces. As the result of the rise in still-head duty, prevailing high prices, and trade depression licence fees naturally fell considerably; in several districts efforts were made by the larger Kalwars to combine. Government continued its declared policy to get as much revenue as possible from the least possible consumption, the incidence of total revenue rising from Rs. 5-13-5 to Rs. 5-15-0 per proof gallon. Three public distilleries were closed and their number was thus reduced to eleven. Many shops were abolished. The contract system was introduced into two districts, while arrangements were made to bring five other districts under the system with effect from April 1st, 1917. The outstill area in Etawah was further diminished. An innovation, the results of which will be awaited with interest, is the introduction of the surcharge fee system for the licensing of retail shops for the sale of country spirits in Muzaffarnagar district with effect from April 1st, 1916. Contracts from the sale of hemp drugs were resettled in 17 districts and resulted in a fall of 1·5 per cent. in licence fees—a moderate item considering the economic conditions of the year. Owing to the fact that enhancements of duty were to take effect from April 1st, 1916, contracts were resigned in the whole or parts of 26 districts. The net result of all the settlements was that 11 districts were held as single contracts, 35 by tahsils or blocks, and 2 by shops. The fall in consumption of *ganja* was more than compensated by a considerable rise in that of *charas*, the latter being probably due to the large amount taken out of bond in anticipation of an increase in duty. Consumption of *bhang* exhibited a decline. The rate of duty on opium was raised from April 1st, 1915, and in spite of reduced licence fees and consumption led to an increase in revenue from 12·48 to 13·47 lakhs. Duty on spirits manufactured in India after the European fashion continued to show a large rise owing to the issue of rum to troops proceeding to the front and the arrested import of the German kind. Consumption of spirits exhibited a reactionary rise, the continuance of the war having apparently failed to exert the same influences for restriction as

in the previous year. Cases of illicit distillation rose considerably in number and were due to the excellent *mahúa* harvest. Cases of cocaine smuggling fell by nearly a third owing to restricted imports. Opium prosecutions showed little variation, and there is little doubt that smuggling is still a flourishing and remunerative profession. Temperance societies continued to do good work in Benares. Cases of drunkenness exhibited a further decline. The system of advisory committees is being extended to all municipalities with effect from April 1st, 1916.

Stamps and income tax.

24. The total income from stamps showed a gratifying rise from 118·18 to 125·14 lakhs, which was due to a renewed confidence in the result of the war. Collections of income tax rose from 26·22 to 27·92 lakhs. The demand for the year rose from 21·71 to 23·20 lakhs, which was practically collected in full. Appeals and objections and coercive processes exhibited an appreciable decline in number. The increase in income tax rates should lead to a considerably enlarged demand as there is little doubt that the tax is considerably under-assessed.

Provincial finance.

25. The budget of 1915-16 was the first war budget and was framed with a view on the one hand to probable post-war effects on the development of the income of the province and on the other hand to cutting down expenditure to the necessary minimum. Provincial income showed a gratifying increase of 29·36 lakhs to 6·90 crores. The result was mainly due to the recovery from the famine year which led to large collections under the heads Land Revenue and Interest. Improved sales of timber and the development of the resin industry were responsible for a rise under Forests while the income from Stamps increased in consequence of renewed confidence. The income from Excise naturally declined owing to the continuance of high prices which led to a large reduction in the consumption of country spirits. The fall in Imperial Assignments was wholly covered by the sum advanced in the previous year to bring up the Land Revenue receipts to their guaranteed minimum, while Irrigation receipts dropped after the abnormal demand of the previous year. The total expenditure fell by 20·59 lakhs to 6·8 crores. The creation of the new posts of Settlement Commissioner and Chief Conservator of Forests were responsible for increases under the two heads of Land Revenue and Forests. Under Courts of Law important criminal cases and in particular the Benares Conspiracy case necessitated the paying of larger fees to counsel. Under Police the increase of the minimum pay of constables was a necessary burden on the finances of the department. The circumstances of the year led to considerable retrenchment under the heads Education, Medical, and Civil Works. The provincial balance excluding the unspent balances of grants of the Government of India exceeded the prescribed minimum of 20 lakhs by 81,66 lakhs and the estimated budget figure by 12 lakhs. Receipts exceeded the budget estimates by 15 lakhs while expenditure fell nearly 9 lakhs below them. The largest divergence under receipts was one of 6½ lakhs in Irrigation due to a more extensive use of canal-water for the rabi as also for the earlier months of the kharif, while under Education there was a fall in expenditure of 6·52 lakhs. In general it appears probable that rigid economies will be required for a considerable time to come while it is to be hoped that agricultural prosperity will in the meantime continue.

Public health.

26. The year was a remarkably healthy one except for an epidemic of cholera, which broke out after the Kumbh *mela* at Hardwar. The birth-rate

per mille fell from 44·93 to 43·48 and the death-rate from 33·46 to 30·04, the quinquennial averages being 44·56 and 36·37 respectively. Infantile mortality declined from 233·5 to 205·1 per thousand deaths, the lowest figures—with one exception—for the last 35 years. This gratifying result is ascribed to the good work done by travelling dispensaries and by trained *dais*. Measles, which had proved so fatal last year, accounted for only 8,000 instead of 60,000 deaths. As stated above, the provinces were ravaged by a severe epidemic of cholera. The cholera scheme, or the systematic treatment of drinking wells with permanganate of potash, can hardly be said to have proved a success yet. The truth seems to be that the scheme can only be effective when the epidemic is localized. Deaths from plague diminished by nearly a half. Small-pox and fever were less fatal than last year: anti-malarial works were in progress in four towns. The school quininization scheme was continued under the supervision of the Educational department.

Medical relief.

27. The number of standing hospitals and dispensaries was again slightly increased. Their popularity was once more proved by the considerable rise in attendance of outdoor patients. Operations were both more numerous and proportionally more successful than last year. Travelling dispensaries continued to do good work and are now definitely classed as State public dispensaries. The system of charging fees from well-to-do patients worked satisfactorily although it will probably take a long time before any substantial income is derived from this source. King George's Medical College at Lucknow attracted a good many more students than last year and its examination results were very satisfactory. The anti-tuberculosis league in Lucknow continued to educate the public and a branch was started in Benares. The war made still further calls on the cadre of the Indian Medical Service, with the result that many districts were left in charge of assistant surgeons.

Sanitation.

28. Water-works and drainage schemes in municipalities continued to absorb the energies of the Sanitary department. Seventeen tube wells were successfully sunk. Samples of water in nearly all cases proved satisfactory. The Kumbh *mela* at Bindraban attracted an unexpectedly large gathering of pilgrims, many of whom had the filthiest habits, with the result that an outbreak of cholera occurred. The epidemic was carried on to the Hardwar *mela* and thence it visited nearly the whole province, Garhwal and Almora suffering severely. In spite of the large grants made by the Government of India and the Local Government, the disproportion between the amount actually sanctioned and the sums required to complete works on the programme is eloquent of municipal needs in this direction.

Vaccination.

29. The decrease in vaccinations, which however, did not extend to secondary operations, was unsatisfactory. Calf-lymph vaccination superseded arm-to-arm vaccination in all districts of the province except in Garhwal, where, for financial reasons, the latter method had to remain in force. Successful operations of children below one year continued to show a gratifying increase. The income from the provincial lymph depôt declined as the province of Behar and Orissa ceased to indent on it for supply.

Education.

30. The year marked the penultimate stage in the reorganisation of primary education initiated in resolution no. 1611, dated the 25th August, 1914. Orders were passed at the close of the year on the schemes submitted by the various districts, and the boards have since been engaged in bringing

them into operation. The results will not be apparent for some time but there is reason to hope that the foundations of a sound system of elementary education have now been laid, and that given a sincere effort on the part of the local bodies in whose hands the work of administration lies to make the new system a success the future of primary education in these provinces will be one of steady and increasing progress. The treatment of aided schools under the new schemes has undoubtedly been the most difficult part of the work of reorganisation ; while some of these are doing good work, many are of a type that renders inevitable their eventual displacement by board schools. The disadvantages however of too sudden a replacement have been recognised in the orders issued by the Government, which have been enjoined on the boards the exercise of discretion in this matter. Buildings still leave much to be desired ; the resources of the boards available for the purpose are considerable, but they have been sparingly employed in view of the financial stringency resulting from the war. Numerous measures designed to promote the spread of elementary education amongst Muhammadans were sanctioned during the year ; amongst these may be mentioned the appointment of a special Muhammadan inspector, the creation of Muhammadan Deputy Inspectorships in each division, and the establishment of provincial and local maktab committees. It is satisfactory to find that the community is apparently prepared to take advantage of these increased facilities. Under secondary education the most notable event has been the decision to make the vernacular the medium of instruction up to the end of class VIII. The educational advantages are not in dispute and there has been practically no public opposition to the change. Considerable additions were made to the accommodation in A. V. schools, and though the demand for English education shows no signs of slackening the investigations of a committee appointed just after the close of the year appear to indicate that on the whole such congestion in our schools as exists is local rather than general. There are few, if any, boys who cannot find admission into some schools. The preparation and selection of text books, to meet the requirements of revised curricula for both English and vernacular schools engaged the special attention of the department, and much useful work has been accomplished in this direction. Female education presents much the same features as in past years. Defects and deficiencies in the system of administration there no doubt are, and any light thrown on these by the inquiry which the Government of India have since initiated will be welcomed ; but the general backwardness of the provinces cannot be attributed to causes of this kind. The real problem is to find decently competent teachers for the existing schools and to fill these schools with girls who will remain on long enough to derive any real benefit ; broadly speaking this is impossible without a radical change in the general attitude of the people. The enrolment of students in Arts colleges continues to increase. The promising new college at Gorakhpur and the Kayasth Pathsala at Allahabad were affiliated up to the B. A. standard and notable additions were made by a number of other colleges on the science side. There is a limit however to the capacity for expansion of any single college ; and only a remote prospect of the establishment of new colleges. But the future of University education is bound up with that of the secondary schools ; it cannot be treated as an isolated problem ; and no adequate solution of our present difficulties is possible that does not proceed upon recognition of this fact.

The technical schools did well on the whole and a special feature of the year was the work of the Lucknow school in turning out shells. Weaving schools continued to show disappointing results.

Literature and the Press.

31. Little variation occurred in the number of books and periodicals registered during 1915. Their quality left much to be desired. Bitter attacks were made by one religion upon another, and a good many publications especially those championing Hindi, contained gross travesties of history. The only important works were connected with pure scholarship and medicine. The number of newspapers, as was only to be expected in these days of world-wide interests, continued to rise. In spite of the clamours of the Press very moderate use was made of the Press Act. With very few exceptions the Indian papers were thoroughly loyal in their attitude towards the war. Somewhat extravagant concessions were however demanded after the war such as the absolute repeal of the Arms Act and various other measures that would, it is claimed, pave the way for the realisation of self-government.

Archaeology.

32. Under conservation progress was made with the special repairs to the Jami Masjid, Agra. The bulk of the expenditure on annual and special repairs was absorbed as usual by Lucknow and Agra. Owing to financial stringency no further excavations could be made at Sarnath. The honorary curator of the Muttra Museum made several interesting finds in the course of well-clearing operations.

PART II.

DEPARTMENTAL CHAPTERS.

CHAPTER I.—PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

1—Physical features, area, climate, and chief staples.

(*See pages* 1 *to* 6 *of the report for* 1911 *and* 1912.)

2.—Political.

(For details see the annual reports on the administration of the Rampur, Tehri, and Benares States.)

RAMPUR.

Revenue administration.

1. There was a satisfactory recovery from the adverse conditions prevailing at the end of the year 1913-14, when, owing to drought, the cash balance had fallen from 15·2 to 7 lakhs. By the end of the year under review it had risen to 12 lakhs. The revenue demand for the year 1914-15 was 49·4 lakhs. This, together with nearly 12 lakhs outstanding arrears, gave a total demand of 61·3 lakhs, of which a small sum was remitted and a balance of 8·8 lakhs was left unrealized at the end of the year. The greater part of this balance consisted of arrears of land revenue.

General.

2. His Highness the Nawab continued to give great military assistance. Apart from a personal gift of Rs. 25,000 to the United Provinces Special War Fund, His Highness sent a party of the Rampur Imperial Service Lancers to convoy Government horses to Europe: he also lent officers and men to train remounts at Bellary and Aurangabad. In February, 1916, His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor visited Rampur and opened the State hospital built there in the preceding year. In his speech at the Bareilly Darbar, held on 1st March, 1916, His Honour, in recognition of the loyalty shown by His Highness, announced that the Government of India had seen fit to withdraw the few remaining restrictions on the exercise of full powers of administration by His Highness.

Agriculture.

3. The rainfall of 1914 was seasonable. The *kharif* crop, although damaged to a certain extent by September rains, was on the whole satisfactory, while the *rabi* harvest proved a bumper one.

General condition of the people.

4. Owing to timely rains there was a large demand for labour in the rural area which led to a rise in wages for agricultural labourers: in the city, however, there was no appreciable change in the scale of wages. The number of tenants who left the State slightly exceeded that of the immigrants.

Excise.

5. The quantity of country liquor consumed again fell by about a twelfth to 22,000 gallons, while the demand under this head fell from ·93 lakh to ·82. The decline was due to the after-effects of the scarcity of the previous year and to heavy floods in the year under report. The consumption of *charas*, on the other hand, rose from 26 to 33 maunds. The increase is ascribed to improved agricultural conditions. Of the total excise demand of Rs. 16,000 outstanding at the end of 1913-14 there remained a balance of only Rs. 2,490 at the close of the year. The consumption of opium remained practically the same as last year, viz., 45⅛ maunds.

Police.

6. Crime statistics showed very little change from the preceding year. Cattle-theft cases again increased. A satisfactory improvement was made in the successful application of section 110, Criminal Procedure Code, which should have a deterrent effect on local bad characters.

Medical.

7. Public health in both the city and mufassil was adversely affected by outbreaks of cholera and plague. Births decreased from 11,642 to 7,650, while deaths increased from 15,261 to 16,065.

8. The number of schools decreased from 132 to 129 and the roll of scholars fell from 5,690 to 4,950. Ten out of 17 candidates passed the university matriculation examination. Fourteen out of 23 former scholars of the Madrasa-i-Alia passed examinations in the Punjab University. The state provides free education for the public. Scholarships are given to the deserving while poor boys are also supplied with books.

TEHRI.

9. Owing to the continued ill-health of the Maharani Nepalia Sahiba the term of office of Mr. F. C. Chamier, I.C.S., as President of the Council of Regency during the minority of His Highness Raja Narendra Sah, was extended for a further two years. Since the close of the year under report the untimely death of this promising officer has been reported. Mr. G. B. F. Muir, I.C.S., was appointed guardian in May, 1915, to His Highness, who was married, in February, 1916, to the two daughters of the late Raja Bijai Sen of Keonthal. A complete chain survey and resettlement of the State was begun on 1st March, 1916; the work is expected to take about two years to complete and to cost about two lakhs. The State continued to lend Imperial Service Sappers for employment in the war. His Highness made liberal contributions to various war funds and charities. Gross receipts for the year 1915-16 amounted to Rs. 6,78,392 as against Rs. 8,02,062 in the previous year and the cash balance was 10·8 lakhs as against 14·2 lakhs, nearly two lakhs being spent on the marriage of His Highness. Both *kharif* and *rabi* suffered from an insufficient rainfall: wages and prices continued to rise. Owing to a severe outbreak of cholera following the Kumbh Mela at Hardwar there was a considerable increase in deaths. A start was made with quininization in schools. The number of village schools was increased and attendance in them improved. A girls' school called after Her Highness the Maharani Nepalia Sahiba was formally opened in December, 1915.

BENARES STATE.

10. The total receipts of the State for 1914-15 were 19·5 lakhs as compared with 18 lakhs in 1913-14. Expenditure amounted to 19·6 lakhs, leaving a closing balance of 1·12 lakhs. A large proportion of the expenditure was on productive canal works in the Chakia district, which are expected to be finished before March, 1917. The monsoon of 1915 was a good one and the *kharif* outturn averaged over 15 annas. The Bhadohi district again suffered from plague and the Chakia district from small-pox and cholera. Vaccinations showed an increase, while plague inoculations fell considerably. Crime continued to be heavy, burglary holding the chief place: convictions totalled 191 as against 157 in the previous year, while investigations held in both years numbered about 450. The Meston High school at Ramnagar was formally opened by His Honour on 4th December, 1914, and proved a rapid success. The number of vernacular schools rose from 66 to 69 and there was an increase of 647 in the number of pupils. Female education still remained unpopular. The State contributed a number of horses and tents for war services.

3—Historical summary.

4—Form of administration.

5—Character of land tenure, and system of survey and settlement.

6—Civil divisions of British territory.

7—Details of last census, tribes, and language.

(For sections 3 to 7 see pages 8 to 41 of the report for the year 1911-12.)

8—Changes in administration.

11. The Hon'ble Sir James Scorgie Meston, K.C.S.I., held charge of the provinces throughout the year.

9—Relations with tributary States and frontier affairs.

12. In consequence of representations by the Tehri Darbar to the effect that the Bharatji temple at Rikhikesh was being mismanaged it was arranged that the Superintendent of Dehra Dun should exercise supervision over its management. The registration of coolies at Rikhikesh was again put under the supervision of the Tehri State. A boundary dispute between the Tehri State and British Garhwal was settled after a joint enquiry made by the President of the Court of Regency and the Deputy Commissioner of Garhwal. Progress was made with the settlements of boundary disputes between Nepal and Kheri and of irrigation disputes between Nepal and Basti.

10—Condition of the people.

(For details see the annual report on the revenue administration by the Board of Revenue for the year ending 30th September, 1915.)

General.

13. There was a considerable recovery from the adverse conditions which marked the revenue year 1913-14. The seasons were not however sufficiently favourable to re-establish real prosperity. Irregular rainfall in the *kharif* followed by late rains in the *rabi* to a considerable extent cheated the hopes of the cultivator. To proceed to detail, the rainfall of June, although below normal in the western districts, was sufficient to give a start to agricultural operations. Rain was general, in the beginning of July, except in the Upper and Central Doab, where it was for the most part insufficient. A short break was followed by heavy rains in most of the districts with the exception of parts of Agra and Meerut divisions. In August, the rainfall was irregular, a general excess in the eastern and central portions of the provinces being set off by a deficiency in the two western divisions. In September, parts of Agra and Bulandshahr suffered from a shortage. On the other hand very heavy rain fell in the central parts of the provinces and led to floods in the riparian tracts of Oudh, Gorakhpur and the south-eastern districts. Relief where needed was given by liberal distribution of *taqavi* and by remissions of revenue and rents; in general however the damage was compensated by extending the area of *rabi* sowings. In the first week of October heavy rain again fell in the eastern districts and parts of Allahabad and Jhansi. The irregularity of the monsoon will be apparent from the fact that between June 1st and October 31st, Lucknow and Fyzabad divisions had excesses of 67 and 51 per cent. respectively above the normal, while Agra had a deficiency of 38 per cent. The total *kharif* area sown exceeded the normal by one per cent. Moisture was generally sufficient for *rabi* sowings. The earlier half of November however was abnormally hot and killed off some of the young wheat. Towards the end of January rain came to the western districts, while in the beginning of February there were heavy falls all over the provinces followed by dull and cloudy weather for the remainder of the month and further heavy showers in the second week of March. This heavy rain spoiled the prospects of a bumper *rabi* crop. Wheat was the principal sufferer as rust set in and the grain weighed out light. The total area sown with *rabi* crops just exceeded the normal. There were no widespread calamities although considerable damage was done, for the most part locally, by floods, hail, locusts, etc. The mango blossom in particular was almost completely wiped out. No special measures of relief were needed. Suspensions and remissions of revenue were few. Loans taken under Act XII for seed, cattle, and temporary requirements exceeded the normal in Agra, Allahabad, and Jhansi divisions and a few districts. The Agra and Lucknow divisions continued to show a satisfactory increase in the amount of *taqavi* taken under Act XIX for masonry wells and permanent improvements. The year was an extremely healthy one except in the Kumaun division,

which suffered severely from cholera after the Kumbh Mela at Hardwar. In Garhwal the number of deaths was the highest for 23 years.

Crops, prices, and trade.

14. A large part of the *kharif* area was naturally sown with crops which yielded fodder for cattle: the heavy rains in July, moreover, led to the extensive cultivation of *bajra*, the area of which was 136 as compared with a normal area of 100. The smaller millets, and maize, and cotton were sown in more than the normal area, while *juar*, rice, early and late, and sugarcane covered a smaller area than usual. Cotton unfortunately failed to command the high prices of the previous year, while according to reports sufficient seed was not forthcoming for sugarcane owing to the poor quality of the previous crop. The outturn of all the *kharif* crops was estimated to be below normal. Of the *rabi* staples the areas sown with rapeseed, barley, wheat, gram, and linseed were reported to be 127, 110, 106, 94, and 51 respectively as compared with a normal of 100. The outturn of every crop fell below normal, wheat being the chief sufferer from the late winter rains. Prices rose even higher than in the preceding year. Whereas in 1913-14 the price of wheat had never exceeded 8 seers per rupee, in the year under report it rose to 6 seers in January-February, and throughout the year its mean price never reached 10 seers. The prohibition of free export of wheat came into force at the end of December, 1914. This had no immediate effect on the rise in prices and a steady fall set in in March 1915, as the result of the Government of India's announcement, that, while the embargo on the private export of wheat would continue up to 31st December, 1915, Government would arrange for the export of as much of the new crop as was considered possible after consideration of the needs of India and the interests of the cultivator. Barley and gram followed much the same course. In December-January less than 10 seers of barley and only 8 seers of gram could be obtained for the rupee. *Juar* and *bajra* fluctuated considerably from month to month, the highest prices being 10 seers for *juar* and $9\frac{3}{4}$ seers for *bajra*. The Annual Report on Inland Trade, which contains statistics up to March 31st, 1916, shows, broadly speaking, a return to normal conditions after a period of scarcity. Total imports fell off by about ·4 to 2·5 million tons owing to smaller receipts of grain, coal and coke, and salt. Total exports, on the other hand, increased by about ·5 to 2·1 million tons in consequence of larger exports of grains and oilseeds. Internal rail-borne traffic fell roughly from 1·36 to 1·18 million tons as the harvests were on the whole satisfactory.

CHAPTER II.—ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

11—Realization of the land revenue.

(For details see the annual report on the revenue administration by the Board of Revenue for the year ending 30th September, 1915.)

Total demand and collections.

15. The total demand from all sources of income under the administration of the Board of Revenue was 10·38 crores, an increase of 1·26 crores on that of the preceding year. This increase consisted of 45 lakhs on account of arrears of revenue, mostly suspended in the preceding year, and 80 lakhs on account of *taqavi* advances, chiefly under Act XII. The real demand was 10·36 crores, of which 9·95 crores was collected and 4 lakhs was remitted, leaving a balance of 37 lakhs. The chief items of this balance were 4 lakhs of land revenue, 16 lakhs of *taqavi*, which was suspended, and 11 lakhs of *taqavi* due under Act XII.

Land revenue.

16. The net enforceable demand of land revenue was 6·97 crores. This exceeded the corresponding demand for 1913-14 by nearly 46 lakhs. The increase was due to the suspended revenue of the previous year. The actual collections were 6·89 crores, leaving an apparent balance of 8 lakhs. Of this, however, Rs. 3,53,714 was remitted on account of drought, hail, etc., and Rs. 4,23,578 was suspended arrears continued under suspension or demands newly suspended or postponed, and the real balance was Rs. 22,647 only. Of this balance Rs. 10,027 was realized after the close of the year, Rs. 7,063 was under recovery, and Rs. 5,557 was due from estates under Government management. Of the whole provincial total, just under 8 lakhs, of remissions and suspensions, the Muttra district which had suffered from floods, hail, and drought, accounted for no less than Rs. 3,27,530. The *malikana* dues were collected, practically in full.

Rates.

17. In spite of the more favourable rainfall in the year under report the demand for occupier's rate fell only by one per cent. to Rs. 97,52,263, the reasons given for this being the brisk demand for water during the breaks in the monsoons and a full supply of water in the Bundelkhand and Rohilkhand canals. The demand for owner's rate decreased by Rs. 32,345, of which Rs. 31,243 were due to the completion of the new settlement in Etawah. The outstanding realizable balances for these rates at the end of the year were Rs. 1,31,688 for occupier's rate and Rs. 5,988 for owner's rate, nearly the whole of this being in the Muttra district. Under local rates and cesses the demand fell by Rs. 8,856 to Rs. 68,63,982. The decrease was due to changes in the rates in Oudh consequent on the introduction of the amended United Provinces Local Rates Act I of 1914, which operated throughout the whole year, as against six months in the preceding year. Local rates in both Agra and Oudh were almost fully collected.

Advances.

18. The demand for *taqavi* advances resumed comparatively normal proportions after the excessive demand in the previous year, the total drop in the year under report being 1·49 crores. Under Act XIX for masonry wells and permanent improvements 12·77 lakhs was advanced and under Act XII for seed, cattle, and temporary requirements 30·1 lakhs, the corresponding figures for 1913-14 being 42·93 and 148·71 lakhs respectively. Under Act XIX Agra and Lucknow divisions, Budaun, Allahabad, Jaunpur, and Partabgarh were the largest recipients. From these advances 5,060 new masonry wells were completed, 7,521 were under construction, and 2,192 were repaired. One thousand nine hundred and fifty-two new *bundhs* were completed. Seventy-eight new tanks were completely excavated, while 22 others were under construction. In Bulandshahr further progress was made in the erection of oil-engines and irrigation pumps. Under Act XII the Jhansi division took the largest amount; 20·53 lakhs was advanced for seed and 7·11 lakhs for cattle. The outstanding balance at the opening of the year under both Acts was 2·47 crores. Excluding postponements and suspensions, the amounts for collection in the year under report were 18·14 lakhs under Act XIX and 1·14 crores under Act XII. Actual collections under both

Acts reached 90 per cent. approximately. No new aided works were needed in the year under report. The year's demand for collection was Rs. 1,05,249, of which 85 per cent. was collected.

Coercive processes.

19. The number of coercive processes of all kinds rose to 213,513 or 31 per cent. above the figures of the preceding year. Citations for arrears of *taqavi* formed by far the largest item in the increase, the chief reason for which was that there was a larger amount to collect and severe measures had to be adopted for its realization. Attachments and sales of moveable property increased by 2,769 and 72 respectively. Attachments of immoveable property rose by 72, while sales fell by 2.

12—Settlements.

20. The increase of settlement work led to the appointment of a Settlement Commissioner for five years with effect from 1st November, 1914. The settlements of Etawah, Fatehpur, and part of Pilibhit were completed within the year and resulted in enhancements of Rs. 1,81,122, Rs. 1,34,937, and Rs. 42,056 respectively. The Kashipur tahsil of the Naini Tal district was inspected and assessed during the year and its assessment was sanctioned soon after the close of the year. In Allahabad inspection and assessment of the tracts under settlement were completed soon after the close of the year: as finally proposed by the Settlement Commissioner, in June, 1916, the settlement will result in an enhancement of nearly 1·74 lakhs in revenue. In Gorakhpur a settlement officer was appointed in October, 1914: inspection was made of the eastern half of pargana Haveli and its rent rate was sanctioned. Further progress was made and in October, 1915, the district was divided between two settlement officers. In Basti a settlement officer was appointed in October, 1915. In Bulandshahr correction of maps was begun in two tahsils. The Board submitted proposals for the settlement of Saharanpur. Twelve parganas in Bundelkhand, whose quinquennial assessments had been held over in the previous year owing to famine, came under revision and resulted in a net increase of Rs. 23,256. In the Bhabar estate a revised settlement sanctioned by Government led to a net reduction of the demand from Rs. 76,983 to Rs. 65,993.

Case work.

21. The number of cases pending from the preceding year was 9,190 and 16,836 were instituted during the year, giving a total of 26,026. Of these, a balance of 3,970 remained for disposal at the end of the year, Gorakhpur being responsible for nearly half of them.

Cost of settlement operations.

22. The expenditure on settlement operations during the year totalled Rs. 2,39,376 as compared with Rs. 3,09,361 for the previous year.

13—Land records.

(For details see the annual report on the administration of land records for the year ending 30th September, 1915.)

Establishment

23. Government sanctioned, with effect from 1st October, 1915, the creation of 10 extra posts of supervisor qanungos: 3 on Rs. 50, 3 on Rs. 45, and 4 on Rs. 30. In pursuance of Mr. Pike's proposals the pay of registrar qanungos, their assistants, and assistants sadr qanungos was raised.

Patwaris.

24. Four patwaris were appointed permanent assistant registrar qanungos, two as permanent partition amins, and one as naib-nazir. Many officiated in various capacities. The percentage of patwaris holding the patwari school certificate rose slightly from 95·5 to 95·7. Exemptions fell from 1·5 to 1·3, while the percentage of unpassed patwaris was the same as last year. The school at Meja in the Allahabad district to a great extent solved the difficulty of getting patwaris for the trans-Jumna tract. The grant of scholarships in Mirzapur for the encouragement of students from the hilly tracts has so far failed to give satisfactory results. The percentage of patwaris resident in their circles rose from 83 to 83·5.

Qanungos.

25. One sadr qanungo was chosen as an approved candidate for tahsildarship, another acted temporarily as a tahsildar, while a third was

appointed survey officer. Four supervisor qanungos were appointed sadr qanungos. Twenty-six supervisors officiated as naib-tahsildars, while seven were selected as approved candidates for naib-tahsildarship. One candidate was nominated for direct appointment as naib-tahsildar. The removal of the qanungos' school from Cawnpore to Hardoi is only in the nature of a makeshift as the last-named has insufficient accommodation.

Revision of circles.

26. Patwaris' circles were revised in Ghazipur and Meerut districts. The re-allocation of patwaris' circles in Budaun was also sanctioned but had to be held over for financial reasons.

Testing of papers.

27. Supervisor qanungos worked up to the standard in every branch of test except in Etawah, where owing to settlement the full standard of *khatauni* verification could not be worked up to. Superior officers of the headquarters staff on the whole sacrificed quality to quantity. It is a matter for regret that they still devote too much time to testing and too little to "re-testing." Tahsildars and naib-tahsildars did better work than last year.

Maps, records, and boundary marks.

28. Map-correction was carried out in the Bulandshahr and Basti districts. Progress was made with revision of records in the Deoria portion of Gorakhpur. Many cases dealing with boundary marks in Gonda district were settled. The fixation of permanent boundary marks in alluvial areas in Ballia district was retarded for want of a competent surveyor.

Concealment of rents.

29. Concealment was reported from six districts and suspected in another. In Basti and Agra the verification of *khataunis* revealed a considerable increase in the amount of rent actually paid over that recorded in patwaris' papers. Reports from Kheri, Bulandshahr, and Bara Banki show that the practice of demanding *nazaranas* on the renewal of leases is very common in these districts.

14—Waste lands.

30. There is nothing of importance to record.

15—Government estates.

(For details as regards minor estates and Dudhi, see the annual report on the revenue administration by the Board of Revenue for the year ending 30th September, 1915, and for the Government estates in the Kumaun division see the separate reports for the year ending 31st March, 1916.)

Minor estates.

31. At the beginning of the year the number of State properties was 603. During the year 12 passed out of Government's possession and 13 new estates were acquired, leaving 604 estates in the registers at the end of the year. Of the total, 249 belonged to Bundelkhand and consisted largely of those dealt with under the Bundelkhand Encumbered Estates Act, while 211 were scattered estates in Oudh. The total rental demand, including arrears, was Rs. 3,85,572, of which 84 per cent. was actually collected as compared with 77 per cent. in the previous year. The gross unrealized balance was Rs. 52,086, but allowing for items suspended or postponed or not due for payment within the year, the real deficiency fell to Rs. 14,572 only, raising the percentage of collection to 96 per cent.

Dudhi.

32. The Dudhi estate suffered from a scanty and ill-distributed monsoon. The *rabi* instalments of both rent and *taqavi* in the western part of tappa Barha had to be suspended and a test work was opened in Arjhat. The current rental demand was Rs. 24,223, of which Rs. 20,301 was collected, Rs. 3,965 suspended, and Rs. 263 remained overdue at the end of the year. The total demand on account of all items of income was Rs. 43,860, of which only Rs. 36,825 was collected, whereas in the preceding year only Rs. 20 remained unrealized. The demand sanctioned for expenditure was Rs. 25,220, but a considerable retrenchment had to be made, particularly on public works.

Tarai-Bhabar estates.

33. The rainfall in the Tarai and Bhabar was sufficient and well-distributed. The result of the year's working gave a surplus of Rs. 2,80,031, which with Rs. 67,700 land revenue made the total credited to Government Rs. 3,47,731 as compared with 3·77 lakhs in the preceding year. Gross receipts

including remissions which totalled only Rs. 3,239 as compared with Rs. 95,119 in the previous year fell by Rs. 79,382, the chief decrease being under the heads of cash-rents, gardens, village grazing dues, natural products, and manorial dues : Rs. 3,743 remained outstanding at the close of the year as compared with Rs. 8,833 in the preceding year. Expenditure decreased by Rs. 2,045. Figures for the cultivated area still continued to show improvement. General health was not so good as in the last year owing to the prevalence of malarial fever and cholera. Quinine continued to be popular although there was a slight fall in the number of pills distributed. Birth statistics showed a slight increase only in the Tarai : the number of deaths however in both tracts rose by 1,605 to 8,420, a result chiefly due to the ravages of malarial fever.

Garhwal-Bhabar estates.

34. The total demand for the year in the Garhwal-Bhabar estates was Rs. 27,589 as against Rs. 23,113 in the previous year. The demand was collected in full with the exception of Rs. 491, which was remitted. Total receipts for the year were Rs. 26,725 as against Rs. 21,328 of the previous year. The total expenditure rose from Rs. 14,452 in 1913-14 to Rs. 19,208 in the year under report, the reason for the increase being the fact that nearly all the original works and repairs were completed and paid for within the year. The monsoon was a heavy one and produced an exceptionally good *kharif*. The year was a healthy one. An outbreak of cholera which occurred shortly after the Kumbh Mela at Hardwar, was soon checked.

16—Wards' estates.

(For details see the annual report on the operations of the Court of Wards for the year ending 30th September, 1915.)

Number of estates under the court.

35. At the beginning of the year the estates under the Court of Wards numbered 202, of which three belonged to one ward, Rani Janki Kuar. During the year 16 estates with a rent-roll of Rs. 7,43,113 were taken over and 22 estates with a rent-roll of Rs. 5,61,437 were released.

Estates taken over and released.

36. The most important estates that were taken over were the Kashipur, Haswar, and Dera estates with rent-rolls of 1·07, 1·27, and 2·92 lakhs respectively Charge of the Kashipur estate was both assumed and released in the same year. The proprietor, who was indebted, applied for his estate to be taken under the Court of Wards from October 1st, 1914: subsequently he wished to impose conditions with regard to his expenditure and when this was not allowed his estate was, at his own request, released on August 31st, 1915. Of the released estates the most important were the Meopur Dhaurwa estate with a rent-roll of 1·11 lakhs and the Seth Lachman Das estate with a rent-roll of Rs. 25,000 and considerable house property.

Financial.

37. The ordinary income of the estates under management was 1·38 crores as against 1·325 crores in the previous year. Gross receipts with opening balance amounted to 1·93 crores : a closing balance of 21·8 lakhs was left after meeting the expenditure. The main items of expenditure were 48½ lakhs Government revenue, 26·7 lakhs for allowances to wards and the cost of their education, and 54·1 lakhs towards the repayment of debts. Management charges absorbed 10·79 lakhs and works of improvement 8·88 lakhs, while 9 lakhs were invested. The fall in investments from 24 lakhs to 9 lakhs was due to the facts that 119 out of the 218 estates under management were in debt, that in three of the richer estates money had to be found for marriages of wards, while the terms of the compromise in the Nanpara litigation left nothing available for investment.

Rent collections.

38. The actual collections approximated to 110 lakhs or 90·1 per cent. of the total demand of 1·22 lakhs. Suspensions and remissions totalled Rs. 19,370 and more than 4·44 lakhs was secured by decrees. Excluding these items, 93·7 of the demand was collected as against 91·8 in the previous year. Collections of arrears improved, being 38·7 per cent. of the demand, compared with 27·1 per cent. in 1913-14.

Land revenue.

39. Payments on account of land revenue, rates and cesses totalled 48·44 lakhs. Revenue was suspended or remitted to the extent of Rs. 6,657.

The incidence of the full demand was 38·9 per cent. on the aggregate rent-roll and 43·2 per cent. on the actual rent collections.

Cost of management.

40. The total cost of managing the estates amounted to 10·79 lakhs, a figure slightly in excess of last year's, while improved collections reduced the percentage of cost to gross income from 9·3 to 8·4. The special scheme of management was in force in 19 estates and worked well.

Repayment of debts.

41. During the year 54·1 lakhs was paid on account of principal, interest and cost, thereby reducing the total debts from 2·23 crores to 1·81 crores, both figures including estates released and taken over during the year. Government made a loan of 20½ lakhs to some of the more heavily indebted estates. Money was dear and property was practically unsaleable.

Improvements.

42. A sum of 8·8 lakhs was spent on improvements. Estates themselves constructed 609 wells and tenants with the aids of estates 207 more. A number of *bandhs* built at a cost of Rs. 21,876 together with 223 wells made by tenants alone should protect 12,000 acres. A number of estates introduced improved varieties of seed and also extended their cattle-breeding operations.

Sanitation and education.

43. The various estates expended Rs. 56,000 or, roughly, Rs. 12,000 less on sanitation than in the preceding year, when the Dube estate subscribed Rs. 10,000 to the construction of a new hospital. Medical relief proper accounted for Rs. 37,000. Subscriptions to the amount of Rs. 19,100 were paid to the Dufferin Fund and medical institutions. The travelling dispensary of the Tirwa estate had unfortunately to be closed for want of a qualified practitioner. The year was free from any serious epidemic. On sanitation a sum of Rs. 15,000 was spent chiefly with a view to improving the drinking supply and the surroundings of village sites. Expenditure on the education of tenants rose from Rs. 71,790 to Rs. 76,000. In addition the Tirwa and Manda estates subscribed Rs. 2,000 and Rs. 20,000 respectively to the Hindu University. The estates maintained 116 schools at their own expense as against 119 in 1914-15.

Agricultural banks.

44. The distress experienced in the previous year was continued throughout the year under report. The principle of restricting expansion and improving existing organisation was adhered to. Good work was done in the distribution of improved seed and implements and there was considerable development in the co-operative installation of power-pumps.

Litigation.

45. During the year the Court of Wards appeared as a party in 28 suits exceeding Rs. 10,000 in value, of which nine were decided in its favour and five adversely; one was withdrawn and 13 remained pending at the end of the year. Of the 29 appeals in which the Court of Wards was concerned, four were won, two lost, one modified, while 22 remained pending.

Audit of accounts.

46. The accounts of 110 estates were audited during the year as compared with 97 estates in the previous year. On the whole the results were satisfactory. Only in Cawnpore and Farrukhabad were cases of embezzlement prosecuted and in the latter district the ziladar who had been convicted by the Lower Court got off in appeal.

Advisory committees.

47. Advisory committees after two years' experience may be said to have justified their existence. They have been specially useful in giving advice in matters of ceremonial expenditure and the like.

17—Revenue and rent-paying classes.

(For details see the annual report on the revenue administration by the Board of Revenue for the year ending 30th September, 1915.)

Rent Litigation in Agra.

48. The number of suits and applications actually filed during the year, necessary adjustment being made for the holidays falling on 30th September, 1913 and 1914, was 448,669 in Agra, compared with 358,819 in the previous year and represented an increase of 28 per cent. In general the rise was due to a desire on the part of the landlords to recoup their losses of the previous year. The districts which had suffered most from stress in the preceding year showed the largest increases in litigation. There was a similar rush of suits in 1908-9 after the famine year of 1907-8.

Arrears of rent and ejectment suits for arrears.

49. Suits for arrears of rent numbered 225,065—a record total, giving an increase of 43 per cent. on last year's figures. There was a large increase of suits in the Kaswar Raja Pargana of Benares, where they had been postponed pending the completion of revision of records. A corresponding rise of 47 per cent. occurred in applications for ejectment for arrears. Ejectment was actually ordered in 9,697 out of 16,049 cases : the area from which occupancy tenants were ejected increased by 74 per cent. to 39,581 acres.

Enhancement of rent.

50. Suits for enhancement rose by 4,836 or 44 per cent.—a figure only approached as far back as 1901-2. Improved harvests and settlement operations in Allahabad, Etawah, and Fatehpur districts were the chief contributory causes.

Surrenders.

51. Tenants made 11 555 applications as against 12,012 in the previous year to surrender their holdings voluntarily. The decrease was due to the agricultural recovery.

Ejectments other than for arrears.

52. Ejectment suits numbered 122,867 as against 107,611 in the previous year. The figures were the highest since the present Act came into force. The rise was most conspicuous in the Jhansi division and Gorakhpur district: in the former it may have been due to the enhancement of land values by canal improvements while in the latter it was confined to the three tahsils in which settlement operations had not begun, a fact which would appear to promise a reduction in such suits when the records have been corrected. Of the 110,992 cases disposed of during the year ejectment was actually ordered in 88,599 suits, while the area from which tenants were ejected fell by 13,844 acres to 243,052 acres.

Protected area.

53. The gross area protected from arbitrary ejectment either by recorded occupancy rights or by twelve years' continuous holding or by long-term leases, again increased by 125,246 acres to 14,569,500 acres, continuing the unbroken rise since 1901-2.

Rent litigation in Oudh.

54. The institutions under Act XXII of 1886 were 93,860 against 118,411 in the previous year. The chief feature was the large decline of 30,518 in resumption suits, the rush of which may now be said to have been stemmed as the period of limitation has expired. Relinquishments also fell by 3,618. There were considerable increases however in suits for arrears of rent, notices of ejectment, applications for assistance to eject, and ejectment for arrears: the rise was due to landowners taking advantage of a more prosperous year.

Rent court work.

55. The year opened with a pending file of 119,669 suits and applications in Agra and 7,765 in Oudh. Adding the gross number of new institutions, the respective totals for disposal were 576,734 in Agra and 30,625 in Oudh. The balances awaiting decision at the close of the year were 115,866 in Agra and 2,315 in Oudh. Considering the vast increase in the number of fresh suits and applications in Agra the outturn of work, which showed an improvement of 28 per cent., was very satisfactory. In Oudh resumption cases were largely disposed of. The number of applications for execution of decrees rose from 158,788 to 180,158 and the pending balance from 16,302 to 17,623. Appeals to Collectors rose from 6,626 to 7,106 owing to the increase of outturn in Agra. Appeals to Commissioners rose, by 12 per cent., to 9,418, the chief increase being in Oudh, where questions of more intricate law arise. Appeals to Judges increased from 1,887 to 2,216. The percentage of appeals in which the orders of the lower courts were wholly upheld by Collectors, Judges, and Commissioners were 60, 57, and 71 respectively as compared with 62, 57, and 69½ in the past year. Honorary assistant collectors continued to do excellent work and increased their output by 5,304 to 26,678 decisions.

Mutations in revenue cases.

56. The total number of changes in proprietary rights decreased from 239,380 to 204,496. Mutations due to sales by courts fell by 319, or 9 per cent., to 9,563. Different explanations, viz., improved conditions and tightness of money, have been given for this decrease. Cases arising out of successions, private sales, mortgages, and redemptions of mortgages fell in number by 23,130, 3,348, 3,369, and 2,570 respectively to 109,468, 30,414, 26,741, and 17,497. The decline in private sales and mortgage cases was due to improved harvests and to a general scarcity of money. More than

half of the decrease in succession cases occurred in the Almora district, where there had been an abnormal increase of 10,039 in the previous year owing to the overhauling of its proprietary registers: elsewhere the decline was due to the diminished mortality of the year.

Partition cases.

57. The balance of partition cases pending at the beginning of the year was 6,235. New applications numbered 3,534 or 636 less than in the preceding year and the number of cases disposed of was 4,335 as against 4,564 in the preceding year. The pending file was accordingly reduced to 5,434 at the close of the year. The partition work on the whole showed a further improvement although much yet remains to be done in this direction.

CHAPTER III.—PROTECTION.

18—Legislative Authority.

58. There are no changes to be recorded under this head.

19—Course of Legislation.

59. The following six Bills were dealt with during the year 1st April, 1915 to 31st March, 1916 :—

(1) The Bundelkhand Alienation of Land Law (Amendment) Bill, 1915.
(2) The Bundelkhand Encumbered Estates Law (Amendment) Bill, 1915.
(3) The United Provinces Municipalities Bill, 1915.
(4) The Pargana of Kaswar Raja Bill, 1915.
(5) The United Provinces Prevention of Adulteration (Amendment) Bill, 1916.
(6) The United Provinces Medical Bill, 1916.

The report of the Select Committee on the Bundelkhand Alienation of Land Law (Amendment) Bill, 1915, was presented and taken into consideration on the 19th July, 1915. The Bill was passed into law on the 19th July, 1915. It is now Act IV of 1915.

The report of the Select Committee on the Bundelkhand Encumbered Estates Law (Amendment) Bill, 1915, was presented and taken into consideration on the 19th July, 1915. The Bill was passed into law on the 19th July, 1915. It is now Act V of 1915.

The United Provinces Municipalities Bill, 1915, was introduced into the Council and referred to a Select Committee on the 19th July, 1915. The report of the Select Committee was presented on the 18th December, 1915. It was taken into consideration on the 29th March, 1916. The Bill was passed into law on the 3rd April, 1916. It is now Act II of 1916.

The Pargana of Kaswar Raja Bill, 1915, was introduced into the Council and referred to a Select Committee on the 19th July, 1915. The report of the Select Committee was presented and taken into consideration on the 5th October, 1915. The Bill was passed into law on the 5th October, 1915. It is now Act VI of 1915.

The United Provinces Prevention of Adulteration (Amendment) Bill, 1916, was introduced into the Council on the 14th February, 1916. It was passed into law on the 14th February, 1916. It is now Act I of 1916.

The United Provinces Medical Bill, 1916, was introduced into the Council and referred to a Select Committee on the 14th February, 1916.

20—Police.

(For details see the annual report on the administration of the Police department for the year ending 31st December, 1915, and the tables under the head "Police," Part VI—Statistics of British India.)

Crime statistics.

60. The condition of the year militated against any reduction of crime. The monsoon of 1915 was extremely variable and led to floods in some divisions, and to drought in others. The prolongation of the war also tended to unsettle the minds of the more lawless and ignorant portion of the population. Hence it was a matter rather for congratulation that the total volume of crime exhibited only a slight increase. The principal variations were in the cases of (1) nuisances and offences against special and local laws which, chiefly owing to the operations under the Criminal Tribes Act, increased by over 3,000 and (2) minor offences against property, which fell by over 2,000, chiefly under the head of ordinary thefts. The incidence of all crime per 10,000 of population remained practically unchanged, viz. 36·6.

Investigation.

61. The number of cases in which the police exercised their discretionary powers to refuse investigation again fell from 30·9 to 25·9 per cent., thus fully maintaining the improvement effected since 1910 when the

percentage stood at 43. In cases investigated by the police the percentage of convictions again fell slightly from 38·8 to 38·5. The chief reasons assigned for the steady decline are the increase in the volume of police work of other kinds, the advance in methods of the modern criminal, and a lack of energy on the part of the police due to their being underpaid, overburdened, and unsupported by public opinion, the last being the weightiest of the three. Non-cognizable crime showed a slight decrease.

Offences relating to coin, stamps and notes.

62. The number of true cases relating to coin, stamps, and notes fell from 111 to 89. Convictions were obtained in five out of every seven cases tried out.

Murder.

63. Excluding false cases and cases in which the murderers committed suicide the number of murders declined from 710 to 691. An analysis of the figures for the last five years shows that murders have been most prevalent in the central part of the province and lowest in the eastern districts. About one case of murder in three of those reported and rather more than two out of three cases sent to court were convicted.

Poison.

64. The number of true cases of poison taken up were 84 as against 86 in the previous year. Many of the victims were railway passengers. Convictions were obtained in about two-thirds of the cases.

Dacoity.

65. The most distressing feature of the year was the large increase in the number of dacoities from 767 to 838. About a half of the persons sent up for trial were convicted. The rise in this class of crime during the last two years is not altogether easy to explain, but it is difficult to dissociate it from the special conditions, political and economic, which have prevailed during the period. Dacoity was specially prevalent in the districts of Muzaffarnagar, Meerut, Bulandshahr, Aligarh, Moradabad, Budaun, Etah, Mainpuri, Farrukhabad, and Agra. A growth of venturesome spirit is noticeable among the dacoits of the western and central districts. Dacoity in the opinion of Superintendents of dacoity districts is growing increasingly attractive to venturesome spirits, and though there are encouraging symptoms on the other side—a greater readiness to resist on the part of villagers, better co-operation between districts, and the efficacy when rigorously employed, of the Criminal Tribes Act—it is to be found that only a strengthened and reorganized police force can cope adequately with these frequent outbreaks of organized crime.

Robberies, burglary, and theft.

66. True cases of robbery showed a fall corresponding to the rise in dacoity cases. Convictions were obtained in three quarters of the cases completed. Robberies were most frequent in Moradabad, Meerut, Agra, Farrukhabad, Gorakhpur, Sitapur, Bulandshahr, Pilibhit, and Benares districts. The number of true cases of burglary reported was rather higher than in 1914. Convictions were obtained in only six out of every hundred cases. In a country with widely scattered villages the difficulties in the way of detection are enormous and the energies of the police were mainly confined to preventive action. A slight fall was recorded in the number of theft cases, most of which were of a petty nature.

Cattle theft

67. Cattle theft cases declined in number by about an eighth. Roughly speaking with Bundelkhand as the exception, thefts were most prevalent where strays were most frequent. The percentage of convictions to reports fell from 25 to 23 per cent., a figure which is as high as can reasonably be expected.

Criminal tribes.

68. No new settlements under the Salvation Army were opened, but the buildings of several existing settlements were extended. The conduct of the settlers, except at Bareilly, was satisfactory. The working of the Criminal Tribes Act continued to be satisfactory. In Allahabad burglaries fell by about 35 per cent. chiefly in the Pasi tracts. Much still remains to be done in the way of improved supervision and proclamation of mixed gangs.

Surveillance.

69. The number of persons dealt with under the preventive sections exceeded 7,000. Meerut headed the list for prosecution of bad characters with good results. Energy was also displayed in the districts of Etah, Budaun, Moradabad, and Muzaffarnagar. From the large number of burglaries reported however it would appear that in many cases the real

leaders were not prosecuted, and the large numbers added to the surveillance registers will tend to make real supervision impracticable.

Finger-print bureau.

70. Owing to the registration of criminal tribes the work of the bureau was again heavy. Nearly half of the slips received for record during the year were those of criminal tribes.

Absconded offenders.

71. The number of absconded offenders rose by nearly a tenth. The increase which is tending to become a yearly recurrence is far from satisfactory.

Co-operation with Native States.

72. Relations with the police of neighbouring Native States continued to be cordial everywhere. The Bharatpur police in particular did good service in Agra and Muttrá.

Village headmen

73. Village headmen were slightly reduced in number and made fewer reports. There is no doubt that the village chaukidar is an indispensable element in the police organization. The fact however remains that he is miserably underpaid on account of the financial stringency. Although no enhancement of pay is at present possible something might be done by giving more adequate rewards.

Strength and cost of the police.

74. The cadre of the regular police force was slightly increased. Additional police were quartered on three districts. Resignations and desertions continued to rise steadily; military recruitment and growing dissatisfaction with the existing conditions of service were the two chief causes. The total cost of the force rose from 86¾ to 88½ lakhs.

Punishments.

75. Twenty officers were dismissed as compared with fourteen in the previous year: otherwise an improvement was recorded in their conduct which led to a more liberal distribution of rewards.

Armed and mounted force.

76. Complaints were made of the increasing requisitions for the services of the armed police. The force at present suffers from the disabilities of dull work as well as of inadequate pay. No change was effected in the cadre of the mounted police.

Railway police

77. The strength of the railway police was raised slightly owing to the opening of the Cawnpore-Banda line. Crime continued high, especially in the matter of thefts. The general results of investigations were unsatisfactory: only about a seventh of the stolen property being recovered. An increase of pay is undoubtedly as much demanded in this as in other branches of the force.

Railway accidents.

78. Accidents to trains were 48 in number with two fatalities.

Rural police.

79. Rewards fell in number and punishments rose, a fact which would seem to indicate that some superintendents are too fond of chastisements. Road chaukidars again proved a failure and will shortly be abolished.

Training school.

80. Of 162 students all but ten sat for the final examination and passed—a highly satisfactory result.

Criminal Investigation department.

81. Officers of the department were engaged in slightly fewer inquiries than in the last year. These were chiefly concerned with cases of forgery, coining, bogus companies, and swindling. False suits were still numerous—a fact encouraged by the way in which proceedings are protracted. Political work during the year was heavy. The Benares conspiracy case was the most important in the whole year, Benares proving to be the link between the "*ghadr*" party in the Punjab and the Bengali anarchists. Eleven out of 16 accused were convicted, while the case against one accused, Rao Gopal Singh, was withdrawn "for special reasons, and not because there was any doubt of his complicity." The absconders included the famous Rash Behari Ghose.

Reforms and organisations.

82. The scheme for raising the pay of head constables and constables was laid before the Government of India. The lowest pay of constables was raised to Rs. 8. There were several minor changes. Eight police stations, five outposts, and one police hospital were built. The unusually heavy rains of 1915 did considerable damage to *kachcha* buildings, many of which were in a deplorable condition.

21- Criminal Justice.

(For details see the annual reports on criminal justice for the year ending 31st December, 1915, and the tables under the head "Criminal Justice" in Part VI—Statistics of British India.)

AGRA.

General. 83. The total number of sessions divisions remained 18 throughout the year. Temporary additional sessions judges were appointed in six districts. Certain selected subordinate judges were also invested with the powers of an additional sessions judge.

Number of trials. 84. Including cases pending from the previous year, the number of offences reported under the Penal Code fell from 111,452 in 1914 to 106,881, and the number of persons under trial from 158,296 to 152,682. The number of cases returned as true fell from 80,591 to 77,590. The decrease was due to improved agricultural conditions, and was chiefly under the head "Hurt." True cases of contempt of the lawful authority of public servants rose notably by 20 per cent. Prosecutions for perjury were common as usual in Gorakhpur. Offences against local and special laws increased by about 1,400. The Criminal Tribes Act was more widely and more vigorously employed, and convictions under it rose from 664 to 1,779. The percentage of persons convicted to persons under trial rose from 41 to 44 in magistrates' courts and fell from 70 to 69 in courts of session.

Duration of trials. 85. The average duration of trials was 9 days for magisterial and 33 for sessions courts, while the average for all courts remained 10 as in 1914.

Punishments. 86. Death sentences fell from 113 to 97 and sentences of transportation from 344 to 340. The figures of persons sentenced to rigorous imprisonment and for more than seven years were 20,203 and 155 respectively, as against 19,890 and 253 in 1914. Whippings increased from 2,168 to 2,199.

Appeals and revisions. 87. The number of appellants and applicants for revision fell from 24,464 to 24,197. In 9,106 cases the appeal or application was rejected, in 10,461 the lower court's order was confirmed, and in 67 the sentence was enhanced. Proceedings were quashed in 204 cases, while 708 were remanded for a fresh trial. The percentage of totally unsuccessful appellants and applicants for revision rose from 71 to 74 per cent.

OUDH.

Number of trials. 88. The total number of offences reported during the year fell by 4 per cent., those returned as true by 3 per cent., and those brought to trial by 2·7 per cent., the figures for the last-named being 43,330 as against 44,552 in 1914. The chief decreases related to offences affecting life, mischief, dacoities and marriage. The only appreciable increase was that of 19 per cent. in offences concerning the lawful authority of public servants. The number of accused under trial fell from 93,094 to 91,075. The proportion of convictions to the total number of persons whose cases were decided rose from 33 to 34 per cent.

Duration of trials. 89. The average duration of trials was 9·27 days for magisterial and 33·07 days for courts of session as against 9·09 and 35·43 in 1914.

Punishments. 90. Capital punishment was awarded to 41 persons as against 69 in 1914; sentences of transportation fell slightly from 184 to 176. The number of persons sentenced to rigorous imprisonment, fine, and whipping were 6,589, 20,822, and 875 as against 6,724, 20,305, and 813 in 1914.

Appeals and revisions. 91. The number of appellants and applicants for revision was 1,198 as against 1,481 in 1914; 998 appeals or applications were rejected; in 1,237 the sentences were upheld while on 12 occasions the sentences were enhanced. In 26 cases the lower court's order was modified and in 105 the finding was reversed. Proceedings were quashed in 13 cases, while a new trial or further enquiry was ordered in 294.

22—Prisons.

(For details see the annual report on the Jail department for the year ending 31st December, 1915, and the tables under the head "Jails," Part VI—Statistics of British India.)

General. 92. Owing to the war all I. M. S. officers except one had to be relieved of their superintendence of central jails. The remaining central jails were entrusted to retired medical officers with experience of jail work and the superintendents of district jails were replaced by civil assistant surgeons, retired medical officers, and private practitioners. At the beginning of 1915 the number of prisoners of all classes in the jails was 26,056. During the year 96,749 were admitted and 94,821 were discharged, leaving 27,984 in confinement at the end of the year. The daily average number of prisoners in jail was 27,015, or 2,104 more than in 1914. The increase is attributed to prevailing high prices. At the close of the year there were 228 civil prisoners, a number which included certain aliens—Turks and Arabs—interned for political reasons; 48 prisoners were released on account of sickness as against 26 in 1914, many of them being tubercle cases.

Punishments. 93. Thirteen jail offences were so serious as to need trial by magistrates as compared with only 7 in 1914; 35,607 offences, including 12,333 warnings, were dealt with departmentally, but the ratio of offences to prison population fell from 154·67 to 146·47. Offences punished departmentally relating to assaults, mutiny and escapes rose from 89 to 137. Escapes were 12 in number as compared with 5 in 1914: three of these were in Bareilly central jail and were due to gross carelessness. Floggings amounted to 38 as against 36 in 1914.

Expenditure. 94. The total expenditure rose from Rs. 18,08,376 to Rs. 19,77,773. The increase was due to the higher rates of food, the increased jail population, and the very high cost of nearly every article required for jail use. The total cost per head of jail population rose from Rs. 72-9-5 to Rs. 73-3-4.

Employment. 95. The total net cash profit earned by the jail factories during the year was Rs. 3,96,980, thus fully maintaining the steady increase of the last five years.

Health. 96. The continuance of high prices had a deteriorating effect on general health and stamina. The death-rate rose from 11·9 to 14·5 per thousand: it was highest in the Benares, Allahabad, and Lucknow central jails and in Kheri district jail: in the first-named five deaths were due to scurvy, while in the last-named many were due to relapsing fever.

Juvenile jail at Bareilly. 97. The number of juvenile prisoners convicted during the year increased from 152 to 169. The juvenile jail continued to do excellent work, and its scope is only limited by its lack of accommodation.

23—Civil Justice.

(For details see the annual reports on civil justice for the year ending 31st December, 1915, and the tables under the head "Civil Justice," Part VI—Statistics of British India.)

AGRA.

Original suits. 98. The total number of suits instituted rose from 122,595 to 145,597. Of this total increase small cause courts were responsible for an increase of nearly 18,000 cases, which were almost entirely for money or moveable property below the value of Rs. 500. The value of suits rose by about 13 lakhs to 460½ lakhs. The total number of suits before the courts rose from 150,109 to 170,787 and the number of suits disposed of from 129,329 to 147,359. The number of contested suits decided exceeded the average of the last quinquennium by over 4,000. The pending file increased by only 2,648.

Appeals. 99. Appeals fell from 13,968 to 12,391, disposals from 9,719 to 9,029 and the pending file from 4,249 to 3,362. The percentage of wholly unsuccessful appeals was 65.

High Courts. 100. Appeals before the High Court rose from 4,491 to 4,646 and the pending file from 2,250 to 2,565. Decisions were wholly upheld in 82 per cent. of the decided cases.

Applications for execution of decrees.

101. Applications instituted for execution of decrees rose from 98,268 to 117,599 and the pending file increased by 2,252 only. The percentage of fructuous applications fell from 51 to 50.

Village and honorary munsifs.

102. The number of village courts rose by 4 to 319, but the number of courts actually working fell from 236 to 233. Institutions rose from 12,061 to 13,345. Excluding transfers to stipendiary courts village munsifs disposed of 12,893 cases as against 11,675 in the previous year. Honorary munsifs decided 5,689 cases as against 4,686 in 1914. An honorary munsif sitting singly was appointed in Allahabad and a court of honorary munsifs at Unwal in the Ghazipur judgeship.

OUDH.

Suits.

103. Suits increased from 59,173 to 67,701. The total number of cases disposed of rose from 61,117 to 67,936. The pending file increased from 8,705 to 10,352. The total value of suits rose from 238 lakhs to 404½ lakhs, the great increase being due to the high value of individual suits instituted in the Lucknow and Fyzabad judgeships.

Appeal.

104. The number of appeals increased from 2,150 to 2,714 : 583 remained pending at the end of the year as against 670 in 1914. In 68 per cent. appeals proved fruitless.

Judicial Commissioner's courts.

105. In all 1,572 appeals came before the Judicial Commissioner's court as compared with 707 in 1914. The number disposed of amounted to 884, of which 71 per cent. were wholly unsuccessful. The pending file was reduced from 998 to 688.

Applications for execution of decrees.

106. The total number of applications for execution of decrees was 62,783 as against 57,290 in 1914. Of these, 54,540 were decided as against 49,055 in 1914. The percentage of entirely infructuous applications rose from 53 to 54.

Village and honorary munsifs.

107. Village courts, increased from 106 to 112. Institutions rose from 4,887 to 5,747 and disposals from 4,682 to 5,642. The number of honorary munsifs actually working was 26 as against 24 in the previous year. A new appointment was made in Fyzabad, while the court of the honorary munsif of Daryabad (Bara Banki) became effective. Decisions increased from 4,301 to 5,334.

KUMAUN.

Suits.

108. In Kumaun the civil suits instituted increased from 5,513 to 5,916. The rise was almost entirely confined to Garhwal. The value of suits rose from 5·64 to 5·71 lakhs. The total number of suits for disposal was 6,741 as against 6,238 in 1914. The pending file was reduced from 673 to 624.

Appeals.

109. The number of appeals from decrees fell from 449 to 316 of which 45 remained pending as against 36 in the previous year. The percentage of appeals which met with some success declined from 20 to 19.

Execution of decrees.

110. Applications for execution of decrees increased by 347 to 3,655. Of these 441 remained pending at the close of the year as compared with 510 in the previous year. Complete or partial satisfaction was obtained in 40·6 per cent. of the applications disposed of.

24—Registration.

(For details see the report on registration for the year ending 31st December, 1915, and the tables under the head "Registration," Part VI—Statistics of British India.)

Registration

111. The number of documents registered rose by 1·8 per cent. to 292,295. Nearly three-fourths of the increase was under "instruments of sale, etc. of moveable property" chiefly in the Meerut and Rohilkhand divisions and was due to the high level of prices and trade depression.

Financial.

112. The total receipts rose from Rs. 7,07,094 to Rs. 7,10,997 and the total expenditure from Rs. 2,99,348 to Rs. 3,13,424, the latter increase being partly due to compensation allowance to clerks for dearness of grain.

Prosecutions.

113. Four prosecutions under the Registration Act were instituted during the year as against eight in 1914. Of these two ended in conviction while two were pending at the close of the year.

Inspections.

114. The number of inspections made was 524 as against 562 in the previous year.

25—Municipal Administration.

(For details see the annual review of municipal administration for the year ending 31st March, 1916, and the tables under the head "Municipalities," Part 8—Statistics of British India.)

Elections.

115. The number of contested elections rose considerably from 58 to 81. The percentage of voters who actually went to the poll was as high as 86 per cent. This figure when compared with last year's figure of 61 per cent. is an eloquent testimony to the increased interest taken in elections both by the electors and even more so by the candidates. The total municipal electorate increased from 112,830 to 114,800.

Chairmen.

116. The number of non-official chairmen in the 84 municipalit s remained at last year's total of 39 with this slight variation of 21 elected and 18 appointed officers as against 20 and 19 respectively in the last year.

Taxation.

117. The process of converting octroi to the simpler form of terminal tax was delayed pending the receipt of final instructions from the Government of India on the principles to be observed in its application and on the revised schedule of rates drawn up in December, 1914, by an informal committee of representatives of several of the larger boards. The introduction of direct taxation in place of octroi naturally met with strenuous opposition. Some boards found it necessary to enhance their taxes on property and circumstances in order to make up the deficiency in income. It will naturally take time to realize the advantages of direct taxation and it is satisfactory to note that some municipalities such as Orai and Mau are already making progress in business.

Financial receipts.

118. The total municipal income increased from 88·71 to 94·42 lakhs which may be taken to be a normal income. The rise was distributed as follows: octroi 2 lakhs, other taxes 2·1 lakhs and other sources 1·6 lakhs. The incidence of taxation rose from Rs. 1-11-3 to Rs. 1-13-6 per head of population.

Octroi receipts.

119. Income from octroi recovered to a considerable extent from last year's depression. The number of towns where octroi remained in force declined from 37 to 35. All classes of octroi with the exception of tobacco shared in the increased income. The most serious losses of income occurred in Fyzabad and Gonda and were probably due to inadequate supervision. Allahabad showed a gratifying increase of over a quarter of a lakh on a total income of nearly 12 lakhs. Refunds exhibited a slight rise from 20·5 to 21·8 per cent.

Receipts from taxes other than octroi.

120. Receipts from taxes other than octroi amounted to 23·5 lakhs as compared with 21·39 lakhs in the previous year. The amounts in lakhs brought in by the principal taxes were: house tax, 4·29; trade tax 1·83; tolls on roads and ferries 1·64; water rate 5·58; circumstances and property tax 3·45; terminal tax 3·47 and pilgrim's tax ·93. The chief decrease was that of Rs. 75,000 in the tax on professions and trades while the taxes on water rate, terminal tax and toll exhibited increases of 1·88 lakhs, ·33 lakh and ·52 lakh respectively. The large increase under the head water rate was due to its introduction into the municipalities of Mussoorie, Cawnpore and Jhansi and to improved collections. The collection of direct taxation remained unsatisfactory throughout the provinces. The chief defects were slackness in assessing especially in the higher grades, delays in making collections and unwillingness to adopt legal measures to enforce promptitude in the same.

Receipts from sources otker than taxation.

121. Receipts from sources other than taxation rose from 37·88 to 39·49 lakhs. This sum included 15·15 lakhs from grants. The income from pounds rose from ·73 to ·76 lakh, rents from 6·02 to 6·23 lakhs

conservancy receipts from 2·11 to 2·34, fees from markets and slaughter-houses from 2·11 to 2·27 and sale of water from 3·49 to 3·88. The chief decrease was that from 1·70 to 1·60 under the head sale proceeds of lands and produce of lands.

Special grants.

122. The amounts received by municipalities in grants totalled 8·21 lakhs. Of this amount 5·61 lakhs were received from the Imperial Government and 2·6 from the Local Government. The above grants were exclusive of all grants given by the Sanitary Board. The bulk of the Imperial grants were for urban sanitation. Agra and Muttra received grants of 1·20 and ·80 lakhs respectively for water works and Allahabad got 1 lakh for water works, while 1·95 lakhs were given to Lucknow for sanitary schemes connected with the emergency town planning schemes. Of the provincial grants Rs. 80,000 were distributed among municipalities for the improvement of primary education.

Loans.

123. The loans given during 1915 to 1916 totalled 5·53 lakhs and represented an increase of ·81 lakh over the figures of the previous year. Of the above sum Lucknow took 1·85 lakhs of which ·50 lakh was advanced to sufferers from the floods. Muttra received 1·50 lakhs for its water supply scheme: Dehra ·70 for electric lighting and Bahraich ·50 lakh for drainage works. Repayment of loans aggregated 6·55 lakhs as compared with 5·48 lakhs in the previous year.

Expenditure.

124. The total amount of expenditure dropped from 95·7 to 92·5. If the capital outlay of 15·9 lakhs on water supply and drainage is deducted, the expenditure is reduced to 76·55 as against 81·58 lakhs in the previous year. This economy which was enforced by the financial difficulties of the year was effected by a curtailment of services. The expenditure on lighting and on conservancy decreased by 2·15 and 2·57 lakhs respectively. The saving under the head lighting was due to a considerable retrenchment on the hydro-electric schemes at Mussoorie and Dehra Dun. Other heads which suffered from a policy of retrenchment were markets, slaughter-houses, arboriculture, wells, hospitals and dispensaries. The cost of general administration and collection was only slightly reduced and remained too high for the amount collected. The abolition of octroi it is hoped will bring in taxes giving a higher yield in proportion to charges. The main items of expenditure were as follows: General administration, printing and collection charges together with provident fund accounted for 9·86 lakhs as against 10 lakhs in the previous year. Public works exclusive of water supply, lighting and drainage absorbed 10·27 lakhs as against 12·48 lakhs. Many boards failed to maintain their roads in proper order, the worst offenders being Nawabganj, Khairabad, Jhansi and Banda. Good work was however done in Agra and Fyzabad. In Pilibhit a new town hall and municipal office were completed. Interest on loans amounted to 4·95 lakhs; medical services absorbed 2·13 lakhs and arboriculture ·94 lakh. Investments by the boards rose from 1·31 lakhs to 3·28 lakhs while the aggregate balance including deposits rose from 34·74 lakhs to 35·84 lakhs.

Water works.

125. The total outlay on water works rose from 7·38 to 10·50 lakhs. Agra alone took 2·36 out of the above amount. The work of laying pipes was completed and the project should be finished by the end of 1917. Other municipalities which spent over a lakh on water works were: Hardwar Union 1·04; Muttra 2·60 and Lucknow 1·14. Maintenance charges fell from 7·04 to 6·43 lakhs. The experiments in connection with tube wells at Agra, Unao and Koil (Aligarh) have not yet reached stages at which their success can be gauged. In Allahabad a serious break down in the engine at Karela Bagh led to a restriction in the hours of supply for a few days.

Drainage.

126. The capital expenditure on drainage works fell from 6¾ lakhs to 5⅔ lakhs. A further half lakh was taken by Bahraich for its drainage works but the Board has no money for its flushing scheme. Allahabad spent 1½ lakhs on its drainage project and Benares 1·13 lakhs on the improvement of various sewerage systems. The cost of maintenance fell from 1·09 to 1·06 lakhs. In general it may be said that municipal boards are more alive to the need for sound drainage systems than for a good water supply.

Lighting.

127. Lighting accounted for a total disbursement of 5·79 lakhs as compared with 7·96 lakhs in the previous year. The decrease was due to a great reduction of expenditure on the hydro-electric scheme at Mussoorie and Dehra Dun. The three town schemes of electric lighting made good progress in Allahabad while in Cawnpore the scheme should be completed in 1917. In Lucknow however the company was hampered by the difficulty of obtaining plant.

Education.

128. The expenditure on education dropped by nearly a lakh to 6·19 lakhs. The recurring grant of Rs. 80,000 for primary education sanctioned in March, 1916, could not be fully utilized during the year: part of the grant was expended in paying half the salaries of superintendents of schools in the municipalities of Allahabad, Lucknow and Benares. Cawnpore refused to accept a grant on the conditions laid down by the Local Government. The income from fees increased from Rs. 32,531 to Rs. 37,391 or 6·05 of the total expenditure on education. Several boards have not yet worked up to the standard of 5 per cent. expenditure of their total income on education.

Vaccination.

129. The number of persons vaccinated in the municipalities of the provinces in 1915-16 was 118,308 of whom 1,708 also underwent secondary vaccinations, the corresponding figures in the previous year being 126,585 and 1,367 respectively. Successful primary vaccinations fell from 105,253 to 102,570 and the ratio of persons successfully vaccinated per mille from 38·47 to 36·99. The number of successful vaccinations performed on children under one year of age declined from 85,085 to 82,361.

Vital statistics.

130. Figures for the calendar year as given in the annual report of the Sanitary Commissioner show an increase in the birth-rate from 43·55 to 44·79 per mille and in the death-rate from 40·95 to 41·64. The actual number of births, viz. 131,600 was the highest recorded for the last 35 years with the exception of 1899 when the ratio rose to 47·24. Firozabad and Etah headed the list with 68·90 and 63·47 respectively. Mussoorie, Lakhimpur and Naini Tal showed the low rates of 12·85, 17·32 and 19·11: the first and last have a large fluctuating population while in Lakhimpur the registration was probably defective. The total number of deaths was 122,337. The highest death-rate, viz. 76·06 occurred in Khurja which was followed by Chandpur with 65·58, Nagina with 62·42, Pilibhit with 62·18 and Brindaban with 60·62. Plague and fever were the chief causes of the high mortality in the first three and cholera and fever in the last two. Progress was made with the anti-malarial works at Saharanpur, Meerut and Kosi. The original project at Nagina was completed at a total cost of Rs. 72,000 and a fresh project was taken in hand. Provincial and divisional malarial committees met in Lucknow, Gorakhpur, Allahabad and Meerut. Infantile mortality decreased from 292·90 to 277·76. Kashipur headed the list with 412·86 and was followed by Mau, Hardwar Union, Etawah, Nagina and Farrukhabad-cum-Fatehgarh with averages over 325 per thousand. Defective vaccination and lack of trained midwives were the chief causes of this high mortality.

General.

131. The period was one of transition. The Municipal Bill had not yet become law by the end of the year under report; hence no comments are called for as to its reception or the changes it will entail. Considerable caution was exercised in the matter of finance. The close of the year saw the last days of the official chairman and the inception of municipal self-government. Considerable progress was made with the work of the three improvement trusts. In Allahabad 1·66 lakhs were spent on acquiring the land for the two new Trust roads. The new A.-B road in Cawnpore was opened to traffic in July, 1915. The report of the committee appointed by Government to consider the question of the expansion of Cawnpore had not been received by the end of the year. In Lucknow the heavy September floods led to an exceptional situation which was most energetically relieved by the exertions of the local authorities. The town-planning exhibition organized by Professor Geddes proved of great assistance in the work of replanning.

26—District Boards.

(For details see the annual report on the working of district boards for the year ending 31st March, 1916, and the table under the heads "Local Boards," Part 8—Statistics of British India).

Income.

132. At the commencement of the year under review the boards' opening balance aggregated 77·01 lakhs or 13·53 lakhs more than in the previous year and the total income administered increased from 182·92 to 188·62 lakhs. Excluding the opening balances, deposits and advances and provincial contributions, the income actually fell from 93·27 to 91·13 lakhs, the chief decrease being one of 1·27 lakhs under Civil Works. The income from pounds rose from 4·67 to 4·98 lakhs. The sale of impounded cattle was affected by two different causes: on the one hand prices were raised by agricultural prosperity and abundance of fodder in Jhansi, on the other hand they were reduced by the depression of the hide trade in Benares.

Expenditure.

133. The total expenditure rose by 7·62 lakhs to 111·78 lakhs. The items in which the chief increases were recorded were: Civil Works from 54·59 to 57·68 lakhs: Medical from 12·48 to 13·54 lakhs and Education from 28·96 to 31·59 lakhs.

Education.

134. The number of schools declined slightly by 45 to 11,123 but the number of scholars rose by 4,574. Chief interest centered in the introduction of the Piggott scheme for the improvement of primary education, but unfortunately the change was effected too late to allow of any comment on its working. The lack of trained teachers still continued to be acute. It is to be feared that the difficulty cannot be solved by the mere opening of more training classes as it appears that the system of training pupil teachers in itself stands in need of drastic changes. The average village school master is still in most cases a man in whom memory has been trained at the expense of his imagination. The efforts that are being made in a few districts to provide scholars with a practical education is one that deserves all sympathy. The agricultural training given in selected schools in the Etah district has proved popular. An agricultural farm of about four bighas in area has been started in the Allahabad district. The widespread demand for English is not a healthy sign as it leads to discontent. The half-time system has proved unpopular in Cawnpore and Fatehpur with parents as well as teachers. Female education continued to do badly owing to the lack of trained teachers. In this respect matters can only be remedied by a change in public opinion which should be promoted by the better classes. Gorakhpur has made a good start by sending mistresses to be trained to the Lucknow training school. Opinions differ as to the utility of the aided school: the new scheme however provides for their gradual replacement. Another effect of the scheme will be the reconstitution of village committees with a view to increase their responsibilities.

Medical.

135. The number of patients treated at district boards' hospitals and dispensaries during the year under review was 4,446,005 as against 4,124,968 in the previous year. The travelling dispensaries again did great service particularly during outbreaks of cholera and in connection with the floods in Lucknow. The distribution of quinine in schools met with a varying reception: in most districts the levying of fees has alienated the minds of the parents from the undoubted advantages of the schemes and it is to be hoped that boards will see their way to a gradual reduction in prices.

Sanitation.

136. The expenditure on sanitation rose from Rs. 1,21,875 to Rs. 1,23,624. The system of administration by panchayats in selected villages has led to varying results in different districts. On the whole a further trial of the system appears to be justified.

Vaccination.

137. The number of persons vaccinated through district board agencies was 1,495,005 or 31·92 per thousand of the population as compared with 31·84 in the previous year. The total number of vaccinations performed amounted to 1,510,001.

Vital statistics.

138. The birth-rate decreased from 41·76 to 41·34 per mille and the death-rate from 30·11 to 28·63. The total number of births was 1,936,225 and of deaths 1,341,659.

Arboriculture. Civil works.

139. Arboricultural operations entailed an outlay of 1·22 lakhs and call for no particular comment.

140. In trying to work up to the standard of civil works expenditure Boards had to meet with several difficulties such as lack of good contractors and lazy sub-overseers: in general however they showed an improvement on last year's figures. One of the main defects still remained the proper repair of *kachcha* roads. No mechanical device has yet been found to replace the old system of repairing by hand. Most districts have now adopted the method of employing permanent gangs with satisfactory results. It is to be hoped that the introduction of paid secretaries will lead to a more efficient supervision of such repairs.

General.

141. The entire staff of veterinary assistants was provincialized with effect from April 1st, 1916, boards contributing Rs. 672 annually for each veterinary assistant attached to the district. The shortage of veterinary officers was again the chief cause of inability on the part of the boards to work up to the standard contemplated by the revised contracts. In spite of this the department continued to do useful work. The benefits of cattle inoculation are beginning to make themselves felt. Doubt is still entertained as to the efficacy of peripatetic veterinary assistants, the two chief drawbacks being difficulty of supervision and lack of sympathy with zamindars. Less progress was recorded in horse breeding than in cattle breeding. The devolution of powers to tahsil-i committees is at present confined to a few districts but it would appear that they will soon be able to relieve headquarters of a mass of petty routine work. In Allahabad their duties have been clearly defined and limited financial powers have been delegated to them. In general however the work done by them has been found to vary considerably in different districts, the reason given for this being that they will not work unless they are given definite work to do and definite powers to exercise.

27—Volunteering.

(For details see the annual reports of Commandants of Volunteer Corps for the year ending 31st March, 1916.)

142. The enrolled strength of the volunteer forces including reservists was slightly below that of the previous year. Of the cavalry 69 per cent. were extra efficient and 28 per cent. efficient, and of the infantry 73 per cent. were extra efficient and 22 per cent. efficient. In musketry nearly a quarter qualified as marksmen and rather more as first class shots. The total expenditure was 2·25 lakhs. At the end of the year the various corps held balances totalling Rs. 49,782. On the whole the year was one of progress, due account being taken of the fact that many of the best volunteers obtained commissions in the regular army.

CHAPTER IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

28—Agriculture.

(For details see the annual reports on the administration of the department of Agriculture for the year ending 30th June, 1916, on the administration of the Civil Veterinary department for the year ending 31st March, 1916, and the working of co-operative credit societies for the year ending 30th June, 1916, the tables in the "Agricultural Statistics of India—Volume I," and those under the head "Co-operative Credit Societies" in Part II—Statistics of British India.)

General.

143. Owing to the war the department was left very shorthanded and thus development was hampered and restricted. The new district farm at Hardoi financed by the district board got into working order. Other district boards expressed their willingness to contribute towards the opening of farms and seed depôts but funds and staff were not available. A considerable impetus towards the installation of mechanical water-supply was given by the development of indigo-sowing in the western districts, but owing to the war plant was both costly and difficult to obtain. The number of private farms principally in Oudh continued to grow and afforded useful practical demonstrations in the different values of seed varieties while serving primarily as seed-distributors. The department continued to have friendly dealings with Court of Wards' Estates and co-operative societies. Machinery and implements were shown at 16 agricultural exhibitions held in the province. Fieldmen were employed in charge of the department's own farms and were also lent to manage private farms.

Agricultural college.

144. The inception of the two courses of two and four years' study respectively proved a popular measure as has been attested by the rise in the enrolment from 53 on 31st March, 1915, to 111 on 31st August, 1916. The two-year course was especially attractive and attendance was only restricted by limited accommodation. The higher course too of four years was taken up by a larger number of students than was at one time thought probable. The majority of students who have taken the two-year course will apparently return to manage their own or other private estates. The farm was enlarged and a new boarding-house put under construction.

Assistance to the public.

145. Both research and experimental work were severely handicapped by the shortness of the staff. The year was unfavourable for the cotton crop. The areas in which Cawnpore-American cotton was sown were visited by floods and part of the crop was destroyed. The lint taken over realised a good price. Several zamindars arranged to start gins. Research work was continued at the Shahjahanpur and Ghazipur farms in connection with sugarcane and foreign varieties were found to produce more sucrose than the indigenous plants which had a limit to their yield. The sugar-crushing plant designed by Mr. Hulme, sugar engineer, was tried and gave good results. Pusa wheat was systematically introduced into Oudh, the Benares and Allahabad divisions, and attempts were made to establish it on the European market. The department tried also to lower the seed-rate in Oudh and adjoining districts by introducing a more suitable variety of wheat.

Distribution of seed.

146. Distribution of seed continued to absorb most of the time of the department. Seed depôts maintained by the department were quite unable to meet the demand and private farms had to be utilized to a considerable extent especially in Oudh. Among the chief seeds distributed by the department were Cawnpore-American and Aligarh white-flowered cotton, Pusa wheat, indigo, groundnuts, *juar, arhar,* and potato.

Sale of implements.

147. Owing to the high prices prevailing, the demand for implements was smaller than in former years: ploughs however continued to be sold in large numbers.

Manures.

148. Experiments were made with various kinds of manures. On the recommendation of the Board of Industries Government gave a grant of

Rs. 5,000 towards the purchase of oil-cakes. Good results were obtained from *mahua* cakes and are expected from a more extended use of *nim* cakes.

Fruit.

149. The fruit garden near Chaubattia was planted up and nurseries were started for the provision of young stock. The chief difficulty was one of transport. Fruit-bottling was tried on a small scale: its expansion was limited by the restricted output of provincial glass factories.

Well-boring.

150. Well-borers were largely withdrawn from districts where their services could be of little use. The total number of borers employed was 47 as compared with 60 in 1913. The total number of existing wells bored amounted to 667 as against 1,185 in the previous year, the decrease being due to the withdrawal of borers from the submontane tracts and the scarcity of plant. Tube wells were successfully sunk in many places and a number of borers was deputed on this branch. In two years 30 tube wells have been laid down.

Publications.

151. Two English bulletins were issued dealing with school gardens and improved methods of cane-cultivation. Various pamphlets and leaflets were published in the vernaculars.

Civil Veterinary department.

Education.

152. In the year under report eight students were sent for training to the Punjab Veterinary College and three to Bengal. With few exceptions all those undergoing courses passed their examinations. The United Provinces Veterinary Medical Society continued to do good work and its numbers increased. Various bulletins on the subjects of cattle improvement, sheep-breeding, etc., were published during the year. A series of lectures accompanied by magic lantern demonstrations was given to cultivators at various fairs.

Diseases.

153. The number of reported deaths decreased considerably from 26,916 to 9,418: this highly satisfactory result was chiefly noticeable in the case of rinderpest which proved fatal in only 3,767 cases as compared with 19,839 in the previous year. Of equine diseases 11 cases of glanders and farcy were detected in seven districts. There were only five deaths from surra. Tetanus and strangles were again common, with 66 and 22 deaths. Of bovine diseases the figures for rinderpest have already been given. Reports of 1,593 deaths from hæmorrhagic septicæmia were made as against 1,765 in 1914. Blackquarter also showed a satisfactory decline from 395 to 292 deaths. According to reports 1,148 and 738 cattle died from foot-and-mouth disease and anthrax respectively as against 1,824 and 1,585 in 1914. Pleuro-pneumonia was again very destructive among goats and sheep. Cases in which preventive inoculation was performed fell from 78,194 to 18,661 owing to the limited prevalence of contagious diseases. The work at the Lucknow laboratory developed considerably: numerous specimens were sent for diagnosis: useful experiments were made in the cases of various diseases. The enquiry into the methods adopted by the Burma Meat Trade were completed and proposals were submitted for its more efficient control. Sixteen new veterinary hospitals and dispensaries were added during the year, thus raising their total to 77. The number of patients increased from 67,802 to 84,476. The travelling dispensary in the Etawah district continued to do good work.

Breeding.

154. Stud bulls were employed in 38 districts, the total number being 145 as against 116 in 1914. The Civil Veterinary department started to lend bulls to district boards and co-operative societies: it is hoped that the next few years will see a great development in stock-rearing. The Kheri farm, opened five years ago, had 285 head of live cattle and the Muttra farm, opened two years ago, had 204. The department increased its stud of horse and pony stallions from 63 to 68. Of these, 53 were at work and covered 3,331 mares, 385 in excess of last year. Donkey stallions increased from 20 to 23: 16 of these were at work and covered 820 mares as compared with 786 in 1914. In many districts half and three-quarter bred merino-country rams were also lent to Court of Wards' estates.

Establishment.

155. The Subordinate establishment was increased from 177 to 179: its numbers were restricted by the demands of the present war. The cost

of the department rose from Rs. 1,40,785 to Rs. 1,44,961; the increase being mainly due to the expansion of the department.

Co-operative Credit Societies.

156. The capricious monsoon of 1915 had an adverse effect on the fortunes of co-operative societies especially in parts of Agra and Meerut where normally the societies flourish. The continuance of the war also tended to make cultivators keep their spare cash in their own pockets. Thirdly, the landowner, money-lender, and the Government all pressed for the payment of rent, loans, and *taqavi* dues. It is thus hardly to be wondered at that the previous indebtedness was increased by nearly a lakh in the year under review. Advances amounted to 29·96 lakhs and repayments to 28·21 lakhs, the year closing with outstandings of 45·30 lakhs, an increase of Rs. 95,000 on the previous year. The number of societies rose from 2,962 to 3,189, members from 116,283 to 118,864 and working capital from 116 lakhs to 120 lakhs. The year opened with 61 societies under liquidation: 25 were added during the year. Proceedings were completed in three only, leaving a balance of 83 pending at the close of the year. In the case of 15 societies registration was cancelled without resort to the liquidator. The increase was due to the peculiar difficulties of the year. Internal organization was improved. Considerable progress was made in the matter of securing a larger proportion of long-term deposits. The societies took full advantage of the new 4 per cent. conversion loan, purchasing a lakh and a half with conversion rights. Keen interest was evinced in all agricultural improvements. Almost all central societies have now become agencies for the supply of improved seed to their members. Irrigation developments continued. Cattle-breeding attracted more attention. Further progress was made in the supply of implements. Societies continued to exercise good moral and social effects especially in matters of sanitation and education: large quantities of quinine were stocked. Almost all the central institutions supported war charities and relief funds in various ways: they discouraged alarmist rumours and spread correct information about the war. The annual provincial conference was held at Lucknow and proved a great success. Three officials sent by the Kashmiri Darbar and one from Gwalior were trained during the year. The Registrar visited Bharatpur to give advice about the introduction of co-operative work.

Central societies.

157. Central societies in district towns which finance all co-operative institutions in the district are known as district banks: those situated in the interior of the district with a limited area of operations are known as central banks. During the year three district banks were registered at Agra, Shahjahanpur, and Aligarh. At the end of the year there were 58 central societies, the same number as in the preceding year, but their working capital had risen from 61·55 to 64·4 lakhs. Paid-up share capital and reserve funds aggregated 8·94 and 4·81 lakhs as compared with 7·56 and 3·86 lakhs in the previous year. Deposits and loans received by the societies totalled 44·01 lakhs and the proportion of this amount which was covered by the paid-up share capital and reserve funds was 31·2 per cent. All the banks except Ghazipur and Shahjahanpur worked at a profit: the total profits for the year were Rs. 1,37,477, a decrease of Rs. 14,040 on the previous year due to the higher rates that had to be paid for money and the larger balances that had to be kept in hand. Membership continued to decline from 8,502 to 5,613. This decrease accorded with the policy adopted by the central institutions of restricting their transactions with individual members and paying greater attention to local societies. Debts due from individual members fell from 2·68 to 1·9 lakhs. A sum of 45·1 lakhs was due from society members to the central banks at the beginning of the year. Fresh advances totalled 34·2 lakhs. By the end of the year outstandings amounted to 46·25 lakhs, of which 12·3 lakhs was overdue. A large proportion of this amount was incurred in the western districts which suffered from drought.

Rural societies.

158. The number of primary agricultural societies rose from 2,711 to 2,944 and their membership from 101,511 to 106,333. The total working

capital increased from 49·77 to 51·32 lakhs. The small rise was probably covered by the new societies organized. Paid-up share capital which represents most of the personal savings of the members rose from 7·04 to 8·68 lakhs. Reserve funds totalled 4·69 lakhs and the profits of the year 1·79 lakhs as compared with 3·55 lakhs and 1·44 lakhs in the previous year. The whole of the profits was credited to the reserve. The proportion of capital owned by members individually or collectively increased from 26 to 27·6 per cent. : 29·96 lakhs were advanced during the year as compared with 27·4 in the preceding year. The rate of interest remained unchanged, viz., 15 per cent. With the return of agricultural prosperity central societies might reduce their rates in the case of societies owning more than half their working capital. Reduction of interest within the primary society cannot be contemplated yet. The total sum due from members at the opening of the year was 44·36 lakhs : 28·21 lakhs in principal and 6·06 lakhs in interest were repaid, leaving outstandings at the end of the year amounting to 45·31 lakhs in principal and 5·20 lakhs in interest. The special causes which led to these poor results have already been enumerated. The bulk of the loans consisted of advances for bullocks and payments of rent : advances for seed were much smaller as stocks had been held up by members. One of the weaknesses of rural societies is that they tend to leave too much to the secretary, who is more often than not an outsider : attempts to introduce the member secretary for the paid secretary have not proved successful so far.

Urban societies.

159. Non-agricultural primary societies fell in number from 188 to 182 : their membership however rose from 6,270 to 6,918 and the working capital from 4·59 to 4·63 lakhs. Of the above seven were non-credit societies, ten were limited liabilities, and the remaining 165 unlimited liability credit societies. The limited liability companies were chiefly clerks' associations and on the whole did well. The unlimited liability companies did badly : they were hard hit by the war, which raised the prices of imports, such as dyes, and also caused a general slackness in trade. Overdues still remained large. The security of the societies however improved as more than a quarter of the total capital of 2·61 lakhs was owned by the members. Of the eight non-credit urban societies six were distributive stores and one, the Bareilly carpenters' workshop, was both a productive and selling concern. The former, many of which were associated with colleges, did well on the whole : the success of the last-named was marred by an accident which injured most of the regular artisans, some severely.

29—Weather and crops.

(For details see the annual season and crop report for the year ending 30th June, 1916, the "Agricultural Statistics of British India," Volume I, the "Area and yield of certain principal crops in India," and "Prices and Wages in India.")

Character of the seasons.

160. The feature of the 1915 monsoon was its irregularity. It came in strength in the middle of June in all parts except the Meerut and Agra divisions, where the rainfall was insufficient. In July rain was again above normal except in the two above-mentioned divisions. This was repeated in August and caused floods in Gorakhpur, Fyzabad, and Allahabad divisions. In September the rainfall extended to the Meerut division although it was still short in the Agra division. The monsoon continued well into October and on the whole was distinctly above the normal especially in the Lucknow division. A long spell of dry weather followed during which the crops in Agra and parts of Meerut division suffered severely. The break came in the month of February, when moderate rain fell and continued till the beginning of March. In the Kumaun division the rainfall from November onwards was very deficient and in many parts of the hill tracts cold weather crops failed. The short rainfall also affected the supply of canal water, the insufficient supply of which retarded the sowings of early hot-weather crops in April and May.

Cultivated area.

161. The total cultivated area slightly exceeded 35½ million acres and represented an increase of 70,531 acres on the previous year. The area

under kharif crops rose by 140,852 acres or 1 per cent. There was a decline in the Meerut, Agra, and Rohilkhand divisions due to shortness of rain and also in parts of Lucknow division owing to floods. The Jhansi and Benares divisions showed a large increase. Rabi sowings were restricted in Agra and Meerut divisions and were extended in Rohilkhand, Lucknow, and Bundelkhand divisions. The areas of the principal kharif crops with the exception of cotton showed an increase over the figures of the preceding year. The rice crop did well and but for floods would have done even better. The reasons for the decline in cotton were the comparatively low profits to be obtained therefrom and the rise in food prices which led to *juar* being put down in its place: part also of the cotton area was sown with indigo, the area of which rose from 12,300 to 43,248 acres. Of the rabi crops the area sown with wheat showed a considerable decrease of 10 per cent. owing to the restricted sowings in the Meerut, Agra, Lucknow, and Fyzabad divisions. The Jhansi division alone showed an appreciable increase. Barley sowings, on the other hand, rose by 10 per cent. the increase being most marked in the Agra, Lucknow, and Fyzabad divisions. Gram also was sown in a larger area and produced an excellent crop. Linseed although sown more extensively continued to command poor prices. The area under garden produce, potato being the favourite crop, rose from 490,096 to 547,352 acres.

Irrigation.

162. The demand for water was practically on the same scale as in the preceding year, the irrigated area rising slightly from 11,977,000 to 12,113,000 acres. The entire irrigated area amounted to 31 per cent. of the total cultivated, 16 per cent. being irrigated from wells, 7 per cent. from canals, and 8 per cent. from other sources. The tanks were generally full. The demand for canal-irrigation was great in the Meerut and Agra divisions but owing to the scanty rainfall and snow in the hills the supply in the canals was unusually low and proved insufficient to meet the demand: indigo and early cotton were seriously affected: 57 per cent. of the entire wheat area was irrigated. The number of masonry wells in actual use amounted to 537,549 as compared with 535,127 in the previous year. Some 14,350 new masonry wells were built during the year, the Agra division, especially Etah district, taking the lead in construction.

Outturn.

163. On the whole the kharif crop proved the best for some years past. Late rice was particularly good and would have been better but for the floods, which also affected the maize, *juar*, and cotton crops. The outturn of the last-named was poor everywhere except in the Agra and Meerut divisions. Sugarcane was disappointing: conditions at sowing were favourable but floods again did great damage and its outturn was indifferent. The rabi crop on the whole turned out a good one. Wheat suffered from the delay in the advent of the winter rains till February, while in canal tracts it could not get properly irrigated. Gram probably had an outturn well above the normal although district figures represented its outturn to be the same as that of wheat, viz., 90 per cent. Barley too gave a normal yield. *Arhar* was an excellent crop. Poppy suffered extensively from the late rains and had a poor outturn.

Prices.

164. The price of wheat was largely influenced by the export trade. Up to the end of 1915 large stocks were held up in anticipation of permission to export: its price rose gradually from 8·50 sers in June, 1915, to 7·75 at the end of December in the Cawnpore mart. In January, stocks had accumulated and with the new crop coming into the market prices began to fall and wheat eased off rapidly to 10 sers by the end of May, 1916. Barley and gram also showed a corresponding rise and fall partly in sympathy with wheat and partly because of their abundant crops: they started in June, 1915, at 13·50 sers and 12·75 sers respectively. By the end of the year they had risen to 10·75 and 12·25 while by the end of May, 1916, they had fallen to 14·25 and 13·12. *Juar* and maize were thrown on the market in large quantities and their prices were easy; *juar* falling steadily from 10·75 in June, 1915, to 17·0 in April, 1916, and maize from 12·50 in November, 1915, to 14·50 in March, 1916. Rice remained at a very steady figure throughout the year, only varying between 6·75 and 7·25 sers. Owing to good harvests and restricted exports stocks became replenished. Cotton prices though better than those of 1914 were still a long way below the figures which were obtained before the war. Indigo on the other hand secured arge profits.

30—Horticulture.

(For details see the annual reports on the Horticultural gardens at Lucknow and the Botanical gardens at Saharanpur for the year ending 31st March, 1916.)

Horticultural gardens.

165. The Government Horticultural gardens at Lucknow suffered severely from the heavy floods in September, which destroyed much of the young and smaller stock especially in the exotic plantation. A rapid recovery was however made in the cold weather. The demand for acclimatised seed produced in the garden was greater than usual, no less than 9,191 packets being sent to schools in which Government tried for the first time to establish gardens. A *brochure* entitled "School Gardens," written by Mr. Davies, the Superintendent, was widely distributed. The September floods caused great loss to roads, fences, and buildings as well as to stock. The receipts amounted to Rs. 12,199 and expenditure to Rs. 30,626 as against Rs. 12,016 and Rs. 29,213, respectively, in the previous year. Rupees 4,822 of plants, seeds, and cut flowers were distributed free as compared with Rs. 4,930 worth in the preceding year. The demand for trained *malis* continued to rise and again exceeded the supply. The class for head gardeners rose from eight to twelve. The usual class for arboriculture consisting of a five months' course was opened in April with eleven students.

Botanical gardens.

166. The gardens suffered severely from an inequitable distribution of rainfall, heavy rains in September being followed by a drought in the cold weather. This led to a series of insect pests. February too witnessed an unusual frost. Finally, the gardens suffered from a shortage of canal-water. Further progress was made in the matter of acclimatisation and research work. The sale of plants and seeds showed a considerable decrease from the preceding year's figures, but total receipts rose from Rs. 20,418 to Rs. 22,435, Rs. 3,000 worth of seeds going to Basra. Expenditure decreased from Rs. 40,488 to Rs. 36,624. The overseer class fell from four to two. The head gardener class continued to attract more pupils than could be entertained.

31—Forests.

[*For details see the annual progress report on forest administration for the year ending 30th June, 1915, and the tables under the head "Forests," Part IV(b)—Statistics of British India.*]

Area and demarcation.

167. State forests increased in area from 7,486 to 7,494 square miles. An interesting purchase made by Government was that of about two square miles in the Ahmadpur and Hazratpur villages in Gorakhpur district, which should turn out a profitable investment. Settlement operations were in progress in the Naini Tal, Almora, and Garhwal districts. The total amount spent on demarcation was Rs. 58,004, of which the Kumaun circle accounted for Rs. 53,775, while Rs. 9,053 was spent on repairs. The expenditure incurred on settlement operations was Rs. 68,200 and on survey Rs. 17,060, the previous year's figures being Rs. 1,29,485 and Rs. 10,902 respectively.

Revenue.

168. The revenue realised during the year amounted to 37·86 lakhs as against 29·68 in the previous year. The chief item in the increase was a rise of 6·32 lakhs in receipts from timber. Bamboos and other produce also showed gratifying recoveries in the trade market.

Expenditure.

169. The total expenditure rose from 22·83 to 26·27 lakhs. Of this increase of 3·44 lakhs, the two largest items were those of 1·76 lakhs for timber extracted by Government agency and Rs. 93,111 for establishment. The first-named was a necessary corollary of the increased revenue from timber which also led to an expansion of staff: some of the increased cost of establishment was also due to compensation allowances for dearness of grain. The bulk of the charges was in the Kumaun circle.

Outturn.

170. The total outturn of timber and firewood for the Eastern and Western circles amounted to 7·11 and 6·61 million cubic feet as against 4·55 and 7·28 million in the previous year: the total value of timber and fuel in these two circles increased from 19·42 to 23·32 lakhs. The increase in volume and value of timber exported was due partly to the larger quantity

available under the new working-plans and partly to the large expansion of subsidiary fellings and cleanings in the Eastern circle. Comparative details for the Kumaun circle for the two years are not forthcoming in the annual report. The resin industry in the Kumaun circle produced 56,873 maunds of crude resin, an increase of 8,732 maunds collected and of 9,065 maunds manufactured over the previous year. There was no interference with tapping due to cholera as in the previous year. An extensive fire however occurred in the month of May, when 1,351 maunds of crude resin were destroyed and much damage was done to the distillery buildings and distillation in consequence had to be stopped for seven weeks to allow of repairs to both buildings and plant. The distillery plant maintained the previous year's standard for both turpentine and rosin. The saw mill plant worked well. A planing machine was added. The experimental fruit boxes made for the Government fruit garden at Chaubattia proved very successful. A manager's bungalow with outhouses and stabling was constructed at Bhowali. Including Rs. 9,832 worth of stock in hand on July 1st, 1915, the gross profit from rosin for the year amounted to 1·31 lakhs and the net profit after allowing for depreciation of plant to 1·15 lakhs. The fire of May 18th caused a total loss of Rs. 44,878.

Breaches of forest rules.

171. Breaches of forest rules totalled 3,641 as compared with 4,390 in the previous year. Of these, 2,029 were concerned with unauthorized fellings or removals and unlawful grazings aggregated 1,446. Cases brought into court numbered 187 exclusive of 27 pending at the beginning of the year. One hundred and sixty-five cases were tried out and 137 or 83 per cent. ended in convictions. The number of cases compounded totalled 3,575 involving 10,929 persons as compared with the previous year's figures of 3,401 cases and 11,212 persons. The average compensation taken fell from Rs. 2-6-5 to Rs. 2-3-7 per person. The amount of compensation taken was lowest in the Kumaun circle, where leniency was advisable on account of the increase in reserves. Undetected fire cases rose from 67 to 96 - a very high figure.

Protection from fire.

172. The year was an unfavourable one for successful protection. The winter rains were late and scanty and delayed departmental burning. The total area under regular protection in the province rose from 3,774 to 3,868 square miles or 51·6 of the whole forest area. Of this total 3,480 square miles, or 89·9 per cent., was successfully protected as against 99·08 per cent. in the previous year. There were 441 fires which burnt 388 square miles as against 148 fires and the burning of only 35 square miles in the preceding year. It is estimated that 64 per cent. of the fires were certainly intentional and of the 53 fires from causes unknown many may have been due to the same crime. Cases taken into court rose from 12 to 40, but it still remained practically impossible to bring offenders to book except when caught "*in flagrante delictu.*"

Grazing

173. The income from grazing and fodder grass amounted 1·53 lakhs as against 1·38 lakhs in the previous year. Of the total grazing area of 7,493 square miles 2,183 were closed to all animals for the whole year and a further 874 were closed to camels, goats, and sheep only, while 4,289 remained open to all animals throughout the year. Nearly three-quarters of the grazing ground is in the Kumaun circle. The number of cattle for which grazing was provided rose from 8·26 to 9·20 lakhs: these figures are exclusive of the cattle in North Garhwal, which have still to be enumerated.

District forests.

174. In Kumaun circle 8,945 square miles were added to the reserved head by reservation and transfer from demarcated and undemarcated forests previously classed as protected. Of protected forests in the same circle 2,284 square miles have still to be reserved. The settlement of 890 square miles in the Kumaun circle was completed, leaving 2,284 square miles still to be considered by Government Another pending settlement was that of 143 square miles of Jaunsar-Bawar in the Chakrata division. An expenditure of Rs. 27,271 was incurred on the construction of four miles of new cart-road in the Sarda valley, which was needed to open up the *sal* forest of the Jariakhal plateau in the Haldwani division. A siding 6½ miles long was made from Chakrapur on the Rohilkhand and Kumaun Railway to Jubileeganj at the mouth of the Sara Kalaunia valley with the object of facilitating

export from the last-named valley. The sleeper problem was again to the fore. At the end of the year 1·24 lakhs out of a contract of 10½ lakhs had been supplied to the railways. At present the selling rate of Rs. 3-8-3 per sleeper gives a profit of only two pies. A proposal to apply to the Railway Board for an increase of price to Rs. 4 per sleeper and at the same time to enter into an agreement to supply a further 10 lakhs at the above rate was not accepted. Government proposed to complete the present contract as it stood but has since decided and close it as oil cannot be obtained. Less difficulty was experienced in finding reliable contractors than in the preceding year. Some of the more difficult coupes still remained unworked. The bulk of the sleepers was examined in the forests and only 19 per cent. were rejected: on the other hand only 60·9 per cent. of those which had floated down and been examined at depôts were passed. The chief cause of rejection was dry rot.

General.

175. About a third of the *sal* seedlings managed to maintain a struggle for existence. *Chir* reproduction in the Kumaun circle suffered considerable damage from fires: coppice reproduction was a failure. Artificial reproduction by plantation still continued to meet with varying success. Experiments were made in timber-seasoning and with a view to obtain improved methods of burning charcoal and preparing wood tar from twisted *chir*. One of the most important administrative changes of the year was the institution of the General Direction division. Important changes were made in circles. The Haldwani division was transferred from the Eastern to the Western circle: the old Ranikhet and Naini Tal sub-divisions were transferred from the Western to the Kumaun circle. The Kheri division was divided into two parts: North Kheri and South Kheri respectively. Wild elephants again did a good deal of damage in Haldwani division. All the Kashmiri deer have now been let loose in the forests and no further expenditure will be incurred on their keep. The experimental introduction of English brown trout in Kumaun streams continued to work successfully. The proposal to establish a paper pulp factory at Pilibhit to utilize the large supplies of "*ulla* grass" (*Anthisteria gigantea*) in that division and in Kheri remained in abeyance pending further enquiries from England and from Indian paper mills. The Baib and Wood Pulp Company, Limited, who had been given a lease for a period of seven years in July, 1915, to collect *baib* grass in the forests of Gonda division and part of Bahraich division failed to erect a factory as required by their agreement owing to the difficulty of obtaining plant: they were however given an extension. A proposal to take over 30,000 acres of private ravine lands in the Etawah division was sanctioned after the close of the year. Meanwhile the lands have been completely demarcated and small areas experimentally treated with the consent of the owners and with satisfactory results. The number of students admitted to the provincial forest training class was 34 as against 33 in the previous year. Two were sent down. Out of 32 examinees 30 passed, but only two obtained certificates of merit as the standard was raised.

32—Mines and quarries.

(For details see the tables under "Mineral production" in Part I—Statistics of British India.)

Mines.

176. No regular mines were worked during the year 1915-16. Small quantities of gold were washed in the Naini Tal, Bijnor, and Garhwal districts to a total value of Rs. 518. Iron ores, valued at Rs. 213, were extracted in the Garhwal and Jhansi districts.

Quarries.

177. In the Almora district 31,142 slates were quarried worth Rs. 5,775, about half of the previous year's product. The Mirzapur quarries produced 166,185 tons of stone, or 31,000 less than in the preceding year to the value of 2¾ lakhs. The Naini Tal, Dehra Dun, and Garhwal districts furnished 426 tons of limestone worth Rs. 1,157 and 95 tons of soapstone valued at Rs. 9,450 were obtained from the Hamirpur district. Building-stone to the value of Rs. 7,694 and weighing 2,984 tons was also worked in the Banda district.

33—Manufactures.

(For details see the tables in Parts I and II—Statistics of British India.)

Cotton.

178. Cotton-ginning and pressing factories numbered 114 with 12,723 operatives as against 117 with 13,604 operatives in the preceding year. The number of cotton mills rose from 16 to 19, employing 16,456 work-people with 5,090 looms and 487,632 spindles as against 15,386 operatives with 5,075 looms and 457,996 spindles in the previous year.

Sugar factories.

179. The number of large sugar factories increased from seven to nine and the number of operatives from 1,822 to 2,254. The two new concerns were in the Allahabad and Gorakhpur districts. It is to be hoped that the large factory at Unao will shortly be restarted.

Indigo.

180. Factories employing 50 men or over increased from 19 to 20 with 5,783 workmen as against 3,958 in the previous year.

Lac.

181. The number of lac factories, all in Mirzapur, rose from 19 to 25 and the hands employed from 1,620 to 2,087. The fluctuations in prices of shellac point to speculation which will have a bad effect on the industry.

Tanneries.

182. The number of tanneries remained the same, viz. seven, as in the previous year with 4,225 workmen as against 4,137. Since the close of the year however two new factories have been opened in Cawnpore and a third is to be opened shortly. Owing to the large demands for boots it is probable that factories will have to be started for tanning extracts.

Miscellaneous.

183. Other factories at work included one woollen mill, one paper mill, six iron and brass foundries, three flour mills, one oil mill, two dairies, 11 printing presses, one glass factory, and 35 tile factories. The number of glass factories was last year wrongly put down as three. As a matter of fact two of these were merely aggregations of individual glass-makers (mostly bangle-makers) and therefore not factories at all. There were also 56 miscellaneous concerns employing 25,693 hands as compared with 55 and 25,282 in the previous year, the majority of these being Government or municipal factories or railway workshops. The oil-pressing industry is a promising one and several new factories will probably be established as soon as conditions for the purchase of machinery and the marketting of oil are more nearly normal. The Premier oil mills did very well and extensions are contemplated. The Bareilly match factory re-opened during the year, Government aiding the proprietors with specially favourable terms for the supply of wood. They had however to meet very severe competition from Japan, which flooded the market with matches practically below cost price. Since the close of the official year however it was noticeable that Japan's exports of matches to India had diminished considerably. The Central Emporium at Cawnpore proved useful to the minor industries of the provinces: its selling operations however were hampered by the lack of promptitude on the part of the small makers in delivering goods ordered from them. The lending library continued to be freely patronised and Government granted Rs. 3,000 for the purchase of new books.

Weaving schools

184. The weaving school at Deoband was closed during the year and two peripatetic weaving schools were established at a yearly cost of Rs. 4,600. A new weaving school on a permanent scale was sanctioned at Budaun. The total expenditure on the seven weaving schools was Rs. 41,716, of which Rs. 27,765 was contributed by Government. The number of scholars on the rolls on March 31st, 1916, was 109 as against 172 in the previous year. The dyeing school opened in Cawnpore in July, 1914, continued to do good work and proposals were submitted to Government for putting it on a permanent basis. A peripetatic dyeing class was formed to tour the province. The pupils of the dyeing school gave demonstrations of dyeing at four district fairs.

Joint stock companies.

185. Four new joint stock companies with an authorised capital of 10·10 lakhs were registered during the year. They consisted of a match company, a general trading company, a trading and banking house, and a building company.

34—Trade.

(For details see the annual reports on inland and foreign trade for the year ending 31st March, 1916, and the accounts of trade carried by rail and river in India.)

Additions to the railway system.

186. The following additions were made to the Rohilkhand and Kumaun Railway during the year under report. The Lucknow-Bareilly section from Sitapur to Sitapur-Thomsonganj, one mile in length, was opened for public traffic from May 6th, 1916, and the Shahbaznagar-Shahjahanpur extension, 2½ miles in length, from March 18th, 1916.

Total rail-borne traffic.

187. In consequence of a return to normal conditions after a period of scarcity the total rail-borne traffic rose by 2¾ million to 125½ million maunds with an increase in value of 9·86 crores. The increase was wholly in the export trade.

Imports.

188. Imports fell from 79½ to 69 million maunds in weight. Imports of coal and coke dropped by 1½ million maunds, of which four-fifths occurred under imports for railway purposes. Cotton goods on the other hand showed an increase of 119,298 maunds, of which 110,118 maunds were foreign piece-goods; this rise was an indication of the return to normal conditions. There was a continued decline in the import of dyes; but that of tanning materials rose from 17,937 to 133,161 maunds. There was a large demand for the Cawnpore tanneries. Imports of grain and pulse declined from 18¾ to 11¾ million maunds, of which more than a third came from the Punjab, a quarter from Burma *vid* Calcutta, an eighth each from Bihar and Orissa, Rajputana and Central India and a twelfth from the Central Provinces; the imports still remained far above the figures of 1912-13, when they totalled 3½ millions only. Metals continued to be imported in smaller quantity owing to the rise in their prices. Imports of marble and stone fell by about 800,000 : the bulk of these was probably destined for Delhi. Imports of salt fell from 6 to 5½ million maunds, as in the previous year the market had got over-stocked in anticipation of an enhancement of the salt duty. Imports of refined sugar remained at the same figure as the previous year, but those of *gur*, *rab*, and unrefined sugar rose, the total imports being 2¾ as against 2½ million maunds.

Exports.

189. Exports rose from 43 to 56⅓ million maunds. The export trade in cotton declined by 330,171 maunds in weight owing to the fact that the crop had suffered severely from the irregular monsoon of 1915: it rose however in value by 60 lakhs of rupees as the price of cotton, which fell off considerably in 1914-15, again rose to a more normal level. Exports of hay and straw rose from 1¼ to 3⅕ million maunds, of which the Punjab, which suffered from a scarcity, took considerably over a half. Exports of grain and pulse showed a considerable rise of 10¾ million maunds, wheat formed a third of the total export, gram and pulse a quarter, and *juar* and *bajra* a sixth : wheat went chiefly to Calcutta and Karachi, gram and pulse to Calcutta, and *juar* and *bajra* to the Punjab, Rajputana, and Central India. Exports of lac rose by 21,734 maunds owing to demands from America and for munition purposes in Europe. Exports of oil-seeds rose from 8½ to 10 millions, the chief increase being in rapeseed and mustard. Of the total exports Calcutta took nearly a half. Saltpetre showed a large increase from 171,994 to 289,822 maunds owing to military requirements : the exports were the largest on record. Exports of sugar gave a net increase of 222,498 maunds, which was wholly in the raw product and was due to the superiority of the cane crop over that in the previous year. Exports of tea gave a small increase.

Trade of Cawnpore.

190. The trade of Cawnpore followed the natural trend. Imports, chiefly of grains, coal and coke, declined by 773,020 maunds while exports rose by 463,653 maunds in consequence of larger export of grains.

Internal rail-borne traffic.

191. The volume of internal rail-borne traffic fell from 37 to 32 million maunds, the decrease being due to the fact that the harvests on the whole were satisfactory. The decline occurred chiefly under the heads raw cotton, fodder, grain and pulse, marble and stone, unrefined sugar and wood. On the other hand oilseeds, railway plant, and miscellaneous articles of merchandise exhibited an increase.

192. The river-borne traffic between these provinces and Calcutta amounted to 121,608 maunds, imports and 31,510 maunds exports, exceeding last year's totals by 12,168 maunds imports chiefly under cotton goods and grains and by 9,109 maunds exports under grains, fodder, and saltpetre. River-borne traffic.

FOREIGN TRADE.

193. Imports from Tibet rose in weight from 75,381 to 78,484 maunds and in value from 9·53 to 10·21 lakhs. Exports also rose from 50,632 to 53,704 maunds in weight and from 5·22 to 5·32 lakhs in value. The imports of wax and salt rose by 4,585 and 632 maunds respectively owing to the high prices obtainable for the first commodity. The number of imported animals also rose considerably owing to the demand for slaughtered animals during the cholera epidemic in Garhwal. A decrease of 2,174 maunds occurred in the wool trade. Exports showed an increase in cotton goods and sugar and a decrease in grains. Tibet.

194. Imports from Nepal rose in weight from 1·9 to 2·1 million maunds, but fell in value from 1·30 to 1·26 crores, while exports fell both in weight from 366,786 to 350,617 maunds and in value from 58·86 to 58·06 lakhs. Increases in imports occurred under the heads of grains, fibrous products, and *ghi*, while oilseeds, hides and skins, dyeing materials, drugs and medicines showed a decrease. Exports exhibited a decline in cotton goods, metals, salt, sugar, and tobacco and a rise in *mahua*, fruits, vegetable, and nuts. Nepal.

35—Buildings and roads.

(*For details see the annual administration report of the Public Works department, Buildings and Roads branch, for the year ending* 31*st March*, 1916.)

195. The revenue realized during the year by the Buildings and Roads branch of the Public Works department amounted to 3·88 lakhs, of which 3·40 was provincial. The actual expenditure totalled 131½ lakhs, of which 6·4 lakhs were for imperial works, Rs. 8,896 for famine relief, 67·45 lakhs for provincial works, 39·1 lakhs for excluded local, and 18½ lakhs for contribution works. Revenue and expenditure.

196. Subsidiary buildings of the forest research institute at Dehra Dun were completed as were the postal and telegraph offices in Lucknow with the exception of some minor details. Post offices were built at Bareilly and Agra and a start was made with one at Azamgarh. Progress was made with the Benares post office. The estimate for the laboratory of the bacteriological building at Bareilly was revised. At Mukhtesar the extension of the library was completed. Imperial buildings.

197. The new High Court of Allahabad absorbed more than a quarter of the total expenditure on construction of buildings. The combined office for the Sanitary Engineer and Consulting Architect was completed. The original estimate for the combined treasury and police office block at Etawah was revised in order to provide quarters for the treasury guard. Further progress was made with the restoration of the raised causeway to the east of Akbar's mausoleum at Sikandra and with improvements to the Jama Masjid at Agra. The most important educational institutions on which buildings were in operation comprised high schools at Hardoi, Unao, Etah, Etawah, and Allahabad, model girls' schools at Bijnor and Bara Banki, and technical schools at Lucknow and Gorakhpur. The new civil courts at Budaun were completed and work was begun on a new residence for the Judge of Budaun. The police stations which were in hand when the year opened were completed and work was started on four others. Some advance was made on the construction of a hospital for the reserve police at Benares. Other works included the gynœcological ward at the Dufferin hospital at Agra, additions and alterations to the cemetery at Mussoorie, and special work on the Ballia ravine at Naini Tal. The most important contribution works comprised the residences for professors at La Martinière College, the two law hostels, and the law library for the University at Allahabad. Provincial and local buildings.

Communications.

198. The total lengths of metalled and unmetalled roads maintained by the Public Works department were 7,100 and 1,544 miles respectively. These figures include 97 miles of new metalled roads constructed by the department during the year. Local authorities maintained 21 miles of metalled roads and 23,799 miles of unmetalled roads. The pilgrim thoroughfare between Raiwala and Rikhikesh was greatly improved. The reinforced concrete bridge over the Suswa was formally opened by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor in February, 1916. The old single-line railway bridge over the Jumna in the Saharanpur district was converted into a road-bridge. In the Unao district nine miles of the Lucknow-Cawnpore road was laid with stone. Progress was made with the construction of the new cart-road from the Brewery to Naini Tal, and with the project of metalling the direct route from Agra to Cawnpore *vid* Etawah and Shikohabad. Much useful work was done on district board roads in the districts of Cawnpore, Hamirpur, Budaun, Moradabad, Agra, Saharanpur, Muzaffarnagar, Pilibhit, Almora, Mirzapur, and Gonda. Some damage was done to the bridge over the Garrah river at Rajghât in the Shahjahanpur district by a heavy flood, which caused one pier to sink and buckled two girders. An important project taken in hand was that of bridging the Pangeli nadi in the Bareilly district by a reinforced concrete structure. A new pile bridge was in course of construction on the Lakhimpur-Singhai road in the Kheri district. The Marohula bridge in the Almora district was completed. The Esan Nadi bridge at Tirwa could not be finished within the year owing to the late arrival of iron-work.

Navigation.

199. Navigation works were confined to the districts of Allahabad, Azamgarh, and Ballia as in the last year. Navigation in the Azamgarh district was much restricted by a heavy flood in the Gogra river.

Electric light and power.

200. The installations in the Memorial Church, Cawnpore, the Commissioner's bungalow at Meerut, the post offices at Agra and Allahabad, and the office of the Post Master-General at Lucknow were either completed or practically so. Progress was made with the bacteriological laboratory at Mukhtesar and the European Civil Hospital at Allahabad. Companies were floated at Lucknow and Allahabad with the help of the municipal boards but construction was delayed. Capital could not be found for the Agra and Benares schemes. A complete project was prepared for a hydro-electric scheme at Naini Tal.

Sanitary works.

201. The Sanitary Engineer's circle continued to be heavily worked as the following facts will show. The total expenditure incurred on construction and maintenance amounted to 23⅓ lakhs, of which 17 lakhs were on original works; the value of projects submitted for sanction aggregated 46 lakhs and that of the 10 schemes finally sanctioned was 9 lakhs. In addition 21 other schemes were prepared of a total value of 75 lakhs. Great difficulty was experienced in obtaining plant. The water-supply scheme at Muttra was nearly finished. The pumping station at Fyzabad was completed and progress was made with the Aligarh scheme. The sinking of tube wells continued to be a satisfactory feature of the department. Eighteen wells were completed, of which 17 proved successful. The water-works project for Hardwar was partially completed. A start was made with the extensive scheme for Agra. Drainage works were in hand in several towns but those which called for special notice were connected with Muttra, Bahraich, and Allahabad.

Arboriculture.

202. During the year 66 miles of avenues were planted. The receipts from arboricultural operations rose from Rs. 29,872 to Rs. 33,509 and the expenditure fell from Rs. 76,159 to Rs. 74,902.

Private works.

203. In addition to the contribution works already mentioned Rs. 2,27,846 were received from private individuals and expended on the building of *dharamsalas*, wells, dispensaries, etc.

General.

204. Divisional charges remained 16 as in the previous year. The Engineer establishment was still further depleted by war demands, more than 25 per cent. of the sanctioned cadre having been recalled to military service since August, 1914. Revised rates of pay were introduced for the subordinate establishment.

36—Canals.

(For details see the annual administration report of the Public Works department, Irrigation branch, for the year ending 31st March, 1916.)

Outlay and construction.

205. The capital expenditure on canals during the year was 27·30 lakhs, bringing the total capital outlay up to March 31st, 1916, to 12·74 crores. Of the year's expenditure 15·75 lakhs were spent on protective works, 10·75 lakhs on productive works, and the balance on minor works. The chief protective works were concerned with the Gangao dam on the Ken river, the Majhgawan tank in the Hamirpur district, the Barwar lake and canal in the Jhansi district, the Ghori and Ghaggar canals in the Mirzapur district, and various improvements in the Dhasan canal. The capital outlay on productive works was chiefly incurred on the construction of permanent headworks for the Ganges canal at Bhimgoda and on the Gorai canal in the Mirzapur district. Apart from an expenditure of Rs. 27,030 on the Rohilkhand canals, the minor works taken in hand consisted largely of miscellaneous tank schemes in Bundelkhand.

Works proposed.

206. The submission of the Belan canal estimates was further delayed pending a settlement with the Rewah Durbar regarding the land to be traversed by the canal in that State. A project was still under consideration for an extension of the Dhasan canal across the Barma river to a precarious tract in the Hamirpur district. Surveys for a third reservoir at Kaprar on the Betwa river were carried out. An extra reservoir will probably be required for the Ken canal. The submission of the Paisuni canal scheme was held up pending the settlement of the question of land required for the reservoir which will submerge a large area in Baraundha State. Estimates for both the Pachwara lake system and the Anujhar tank were sanctioned by the Government of India, but the works could not be taken in hand for want of funds. The chief productive works under consideration were three schemes for the Sarda canal, viz., the Sarda-Kichha feeder project, the Sarda-Ganges feeder project, and the Oudh canal project. The projects were fully described in last year's general administration report. The estimate for the Sarda-Kichha project was submitted to the Government of India for sanction and the survey of the Oudh canal project was completed during the year. The estimate for the Sarda-Ganges feeder project was kept in abeyance by the Government of India. Plans and estimates were completed for a weir across the Kho river with a view to increasing irrigation from the Bijnor canals.

Surveys.

207. The survey of the Kurra reservoir on the Dhasan canal, the Kaprar reservoir on the Betwa river, and of a canal from the Urmal river was carried out during the year. The survey of the Oudh canal to irrigate as far as Lucknow in the north and Sultanpur and Partabgarh in the south was completed. Several village works, tanks, and *bundhis* were also surveyed in Jhansi, Jalaun, Banda, and Hamirpur districts.

Financial results.

208. The gross receipts from canals amounted to 1·225 crores as against 1·231 crores in 1914-15 and the working expenses to 38·90 lakhs as against 38·82. The net revenue thus fell from 84·29 to 83·60 lakhs. Gross receipts from protective works increased by 2¾ lakhs in consequence of a considerable reduction in remissions and the irrigation of a large area of high class crops. There was a decrease of nearly 3½ lakhs in the gross revenue from productive works on account of a reduction in the irrigated area in which revenue was collected. The aggregate profits from all canals after deducting interest charges from net revenue amounted to 43·70 lakhs. Under the terms of the provincial contract the Local Government retains the direct revenue for the major productive and minor works, while meeting all charges for the latter and providing for all outlay on improvements and maintenance, as well as paying interest on capital for the former. In 1915-16 the net profit from major productive works, after paying interest charges, amounted to 32·88 lakhs as against 37·28 lakhs in the previous year, and the total sum actually credited to the revenues of the province, after incorporating the results from minor works and deducting 2·43 lakhs indirect charges for major works, fell from 31·48 to 28·28 lakhs. This made the third consecutive year since the guarantee was fixed that the net revenue from major productive works had exceeded 55½ lakhs.

Assessments.

209. The gross revenue assessed rose from 1·247 crores to 1·278 crores. The increase was due to a larger proportion of the higher class crops being irrigated in the year under review.

Mileage of canals.

210. The total length of channels in operation at the close of the year had increased by 119 miles, to 15,863 miles, the additions being mainly productive works connected with the Ganges and Gorai canals.

37—Irrigation.

Irrigated area.

211. The total area irrigated under the Public Works department fell from 3,267,272 to 3,243,986 acres. The kharif monsoon was an irregular one, but generally the rainfall in canal tracts was sufficient: in consequence the kharif area irrigated fell from 1,445,752 to 1,236,409 acres. In the Ganges canal the supply of water fell short in August: the Lower Ganges canal, the Agra and Eastern Jumna canals, and the protective canals in Bundelkhand were generally able to meet the demand. On the other hand the supply in the Rohilkhand canals fell short. Heavy floods occurred in the Cawnpore and Fatehpur districts at the end of August and beginning of September. The rabi season was a very dry one. The demand on the productive canals could not be met after December. The supplies in the Ganges and Jumna rivers were the lowest on record in the months of February and March. The rabi area irrigated rose from 1,821,520 to 2,007,577 acres; and was the second highest on record. The area not matured amounted to 13,480 acres, of which the rabi area accounted for 7,599 acres.

Crops irrigated.

212. The total estimated value of the crops raised with the aid of canal-irrigation was 16·01 crores as against 15·46 crores in 1914-15 and the average value per acre rose from Rs. 47·33 to Rs. 49·37. The chief crops irrigated were:—Sugarcane 279,367 acres; rice 245,198 acres; maize 220,671 acres; cotton 233,566 acres; millet 64,455 acres; wheat 840,399 acres; barley 192,941 acres; peas 190,217 acres, and gram 78,287 acres. As compared with last year's figures, sugarcane, rice, maize, indigo, wheat, barley, and peas showed increases, the rice area being the highest on record, while there was a large decline under cotton, the year being unfavourable for the crop.

CHAPTER V.—REVENUE AND FINANCE.

(a) IMPERIAL REVENUE AND FINANCE.

38—Gross revenue.

[*For details see the accounts for the year* 1915-16, *and the tables in Part IV*(*a*) *and* (*b*)—*Statistics of British India.*]

213. The imperial share of the gross revenue realized amounted to Rs. 4,90,08,149 as compared with Rs. 4,57,15,552 in the year 1914-15.

39—Land revenue.

214. The gross land revenue realized was Rs. 6,73,87,924, of which the imperial share was Rs. 4,06,93,813. The corresponding figures for the previous year were Rs. 6,21,88,235 and Rs. 3,74,50,156, respectively.

40—Canal revenue.

215. The gross direct revenue accruing from canals decreased from Rs. 1,04,44,853 in 1914-15 to Rs. 1,02,59,543, of which the imperial share was Rs. 5,46,513, the increase in the latter being almost entirely due to higher receipts from the Betwa and Ken Canals.

41—Excise.

[*For details see the annual report on the administration of excise for the year ending* 31*st March*, 1916, *and the tables under the head excise, Part IV* (*b*)—*Statistics of British India.*]

Receipts.

216. High food prices and continued trade depression caused real receipts to decline from 1·24 to 1·21 crores. The decrease was mainly under the head, "Country spirits," and was due to the fall in consumption. Total charges increased from 4·78 to 4·97 lakhs. One quarter of the net increase from excise, after deducting charges from receipts, is credited to the Imperial revenue.

Collections.

217. The gross demand for the year was 1·237 crores, of which 98·8 per cent. was collected. The districts showing the largest balances were Dehra Dun, where Rs. 19,191 were still due from the Old Brewery, Mussoorie, on account of duty on malt liquor: Mainpuri, where Rs. 14,867 were due from the drugs contractors: Bareilly, where Rs. 28,814 were due from arrears of the drugs contract of 1906—9, and Benares, where Rs. 40,734 were due from the drugs contractors of 1914—16.

Country spirit.

218. The total receipts from country spirits fell from 78·88 to 73·88 lakhs, a decrease of 6·3 per cent. Consumption in the distillery area fell by 7·9 per cent. The incidence of total revenue per proof gallon in the distillery area rose from Rs. 5-13-5 to Rs. 5-15, while that of licence fees per proof gallon fell from Rs. 2-7-1 to Rs. 2-3-5. Owing to the enhancement of duty in 33 districts and depression of trade which tended to stifle competition, licence fees fell from 32·10 to 26·81 lakhs. Owing to the enhancements in rates of duty in two-thirds of the province receipts from still-head duty rose from 44·96 to 45·45 lakhs in spite of decreased consumption, which fell from 1·3 to 1·2 million gallons. Fifty U. P. spirit still continued to be unpopular with the drinking classes. The number of private distilleries remained five as in the previous year, viz. two in Cawnpore and one each at Lucknow, Rosa, and Saharanpur. Three public distilleries at Gorakhpur, Farrukhabad, and Sultanpur were closed, thus reducing their number to eleven. The improvements in the Allahabad and Fyzabad distilleries still remained incomplete and their estimated cost rose considerably. *Mohwa* was cheaper, but *shira* was dearer than in the previous year, the net result being an increase in wholesale prices. During the year 195 retail shops were closed in the distillery area and nine in the outstill area. The total number of

shops thus fell from 4,646 to 4,442, increasing the incidence of population to each shop from 10,155 to 10,622.

Contract supply system.

219. The contract supply system was introduced into two new districts: Gorakhpur and Azamgarh. The liquor in Gorakhpur proved unpopular and there was a great fall in consumption. Arrangements were made for five other districts to come under the system with effect from 1st April, 1917.

Outstill area.

220. Licence fees fell from Rs. 1,65,552 to Rs. 1,18,761. Arrangements were made to restrict further the outstill area by introducing the distillery system with effect from April 1st, 1916, into a tract of the Etawah district still under the outstill system.

Hemp drugs.

221. Licence fees fell by 1·5 per cent. from Rs. 17,57,000 to Rs. 17,30,000. Contracts were re-settled in 17 districts for three years. In one district, Fyzabad, owing to the low bidding the contract was given for one year only. Nine of the contracts were given for the whole district and the balance tahsil-wise. The contractors of the whole or parts of 26 districts out of the remaining 30 districts resigned their contracts owing to an increase in duty to take effect from April 1st, 1916. Consumption of *ganja* fell from 24,056 to 20,619 sers, Gorakhpur district alone being responsible for three-fourth of the decrease, which was due to the fact that licence fees had risen nearly three-fold at the re-settlement of 1915—18 with the inevitable result that retail prices were increased and sales diminished. The consumption of *charas* on the other hand rose from 41,234 to 48,622 sers, the increase being largest in Rohilkhand, Allahabad, and Lucknow divisions and due in the case of the first-named to prosperity in the sugar trade and in the other two cases to cheaper retail sale: another contributing cause was the fact that contractors in the anticipation of a rise in duty had taken large stocks out of bond. The consumption of *bhang* showed a decrease from 231,000 to 204,000 sers. The total income from duty on drugs rose from 8 to 8½ lakhs and was due to the increased consumption of *charas*. The number of drug shops was reduced from 3,458 to 3,383.

Opium.

222. Licence fees fell from 4·70 to 4·49 lakhs owing to the raising of duty with effect from April 1st, 1915, from Rs. 18, 20, and 22 in different districts to the uniform rate of Rs. 23 except in eight districts bordering on the Punjab, Cawnpore, and Benares, where it was fixed at Rs. 25. Consumption fell from 61,666 to 57,718 sers, the reasons given being the increased duty, restriction on issues, and suppression of smuggling. In spite of the decrease in licence fees and in consumption the total revenue from opium increased from 12·48 to 13·44 lakhs, thus conserving the principle of raising the largest amount of revenue from the lowest possible consumption. The number of shops licensed to retail raw opium was reduced from 1,083 to 1,075. The limit of the area of effective cultivation of poppy was, with the sanction of the Secretary of State, dated May 2nd, 1916, raised to a maximum of 3,75,000 bighas: in order to approximate to this limit the price paid to cultivators was increased from Rs. 7-8-0 to Rs. 9 per ser.

Tari and *sendhi*.

223. Licence fees increased from 3·42 to 3·47 lakhs, the Gorakhpur district alone absorbing nearly one-third of the provincial total. The number of shops was reduced from 2,922 to 2,851.

Foreign liquor.

224. The number of shops licensed to retail European liquor either imported or manufactured in India rose from 154 to 161, but no less than 26 of these were for part of the year as against 11 only in 1914-15. Licence fees thus fell from Rs. 61,117 to Rs. 56,887, the largest decrease being in Dehra Dun. Duty on spirits manufactured in India rose from 2·55 to 3·18 lakhs: and the increase was due to the same causes as last year, viz. the issue of rum to troops proceeding to the Front and the arrested import of German rum. Free issues of rum to the Commissariat department fell from 87,718 to 32,269 gallons as fewer troops left India. There was an increase of sales under wholesale licences to other licensed vendors under all heads except beer. The motives which induced a fall in consumption last year appear to have been lost sight of.

Prosecutions.

225. The total number of cases filed in court under the Excise Act rose from 1,685 to 1,704. Illicit distillation cases showed an increase from 399 to 688 due to the good *mohwa* harvest. Of these, Allahabad

had nearly a half, Rae Bareli a fifth, and Fatehpur a ninth. Cases of cocaine smuggling fell from 263 to 110, the decrease being due to the interruption of supplies by the war. The import of the drug from Japan will have to be carefully watched. Benares and Saharanpur districts headed the list with 27 and 20 cases respectively. Convictions for drunkenness fell from 1,936 to 1,907, Allahabad still having the high rate of 15·4 per 10,000. Opium cases rose from 411 to 439. *Chandu* cases were 74 as against 75. Little doubt exists that smuggling still remains a profitable and flourishing profession.

General.

226. With effect from April 1st, 1916, advisory committees will be formed in every municipality and will be presided over by the chairman where such officer is a non-official. Hitherto advisory committees have been formed only in municipalities of which the population exceeds 20,000. The committees will advise yearly on the location of shops and general excise matters and every three years as to the maximum and minimum number of shops to be licensed. Half-yearly conferences between excise and police inspectors were held in nearly every district. Temperance societies did good work in Benares and Naini Tal, while the attention of school inspectors was drawn to the need of inculcating temperance into the minds of school children. From April 1st, 1916, a surcharge fixed fee system will be introduced into the Muzaffarnagar district. The shops have been divided into three groups based on the average incidence of licence fees per proof gallon during the years 1910—15 with surcharges of Re. 0-8-0, Re. 1-8-0, and Rs. 2-8-0 per proof gallon. The result will be awaited with interest.

42—Stamps.

[*For details see the annual reports on the stamp returns for the year ending 31st March, 1916, and the tables under the head "Stamps," Part IV (b)—Statistics of British India.*]

Receipts and charges.

227. The gross receipts under the Stamp Act and the Court Fees Act rose from 118·18 to 125·14 lakhs and charges from 2·91 to 3·01 lakhs: the increases were due to a growing recovery of confidence in the final issue of the war. The imperial share of the receipts and charges under the head of stamps is one-half.

Judicial stamps.

228. The gross income from judicial stamps showed a further increase from 92·93 to 99·03 lakhs in spite of a fall in the sale of stamps for copies.

Non-judicial stamps.

229. The value of non-judicial stamps sold during the year increased from 25·25 to 26·11 lakhs, almost every head showing better sales than in the preceding year.

Prosecutions.

230. Prosecutions for stamp offences rose from 787 to 864. Cases of insufficiently stamped or unstamped instruments dealt with during the year increased slightly from 2,314 to 2,346 and the sum realized in duty or penalty rose from Rs. 25,218 to Rs. 34,258.

43—Assessed taxes.

[*For details see the annual income tax returns of the province for the year ending 31st March, 1916, and the tables under the head "Income tax," Part IV (b)—Statistics of British India.*]

Income-tax.

231. Income tax is the only directly assessed tax in the provinces. The net collections during the year showed an increase from 26·22 to 27·92 lakhs. The total fixed demand for the year under report was 23·20 lakhs, of which 23·14 lakhs were collected as against the previous year's figures of 21·71 and 21·57 lakhs respectively. Appeals and objections fell in number from 9,764 to 8,411 and the percentage of wholly unsuccessful appeals from 68·08 to 67·81. Writs of demand and other coercive processes aggregated 2,817 and 5,928 as against 2,790 and 7,603 in the preceding year. The expenditure incurred in assessment and collection rose from Rs. 1,720 to Rs. 1,949. Half of the proceeds of the tax after deducting cost of collection goes to Imperial revenues.

44—Any other taxes levied for imperial purposes.

Customs.

232. The yield from customs, the whole of which is credited to the imperial exchequer, was Rs. 1,82,296 as compared with Rs. 1,91,014 in the previous year. Excise duty on cotton manufactures is the only customs duty levied in these provinces.

45—Forests.

233. The receipts from forests are no longer shared between the imperial and provincial revenues, but credited entirely to the latter.

(b) Revenue and finance other than Imperial.

46—Provincial revenues.

(For details see the Government resolution on the provincial revenues of 1915-16.*)*

Financial position.

234. The budget of 1915-16 was the first war budget of the province and represented an attempt on the one hand to forecast the probable effects of the conflict on the development of provincial income and on the other hand to cut down the provincial expenditure to a necessary minimum. The general results of the year's transactions as compared with those of the previous year are set forth in the table below :—

	1914-15.	1915-16.	Difference.
Opening balance (in thousands of rupees)	1,84,74	1,45,07	—39·67
Receipts	6,61,20	6,90,56	+29·36
Charges	7,00,87	6,80,28	—20·59
Closing balance	1,45,07	1,55,35	+10·28

The closing balance includes 53,69 on account of the unspent balances of the Government of India's grants for education, sanitation, and general purpose of administration. The real provincial balance was therefore 1,01,66 or 81,66 over the prescribed minimum—a satisfactory result in view of the estimated budget margin of 69·36.

No change was introduced during the year in the terms of the provincial settlement with the Government of India and no important modifications occurred in the classification of the provincial accounts.

Receipts.

235. The larger variations under the different heads of income are tabulated below :—

	Increase.	Decrease.
Land Revenue	19·56	...
Stamps	3·47	...
Forests	6·04	...
Interest	7·36	...
Excise	...	1·75
Imperial Assignments	...	4·08
Irrigation (Major Works)	...	4·21

The improvement under Land Revenue was due to the collection of arrears accumulated during the famine. Under Stamps the increase is attributable to renewed confidence, better agricultural prospects, and an impetus given to petty legislation in the earlier months of the war. Under Forests the rise was caused by the development of the resin industry in the Kumaun circle and the increased sale of timber. Under Interest the increase was due mainly to larger recoveries in respect of advances to cultivators. The loss under Excise was caused by a fall in licence fees under country spirits owing to the enhancement of duty in several districts and the depressing effects of the war. Under Irrigation the decline was the result of the abnormal irrigation of both the kharif and rabi crops of the preceding year. Under Imperial assignments the decrease was due to the omission of two assignments, one of 4·36 received in 1914-15 in order to bring provincial receipts under land revenue up to the guaranteed minimum of 240 lakhs, and another of 1·00 received in the previous year for an experimental sullage farm at Lucknow, and to a smaller assignment for tank works in Bundelkhand.

236. The more important variations in provincial expenditure are summarised below:— Expenditure.

	Increase.	Decrease.
Land Revenue	3·23	...
Forests	2·48	...
Courts of Law	3·15	...
Police	2·02	...
Miscellaneous	1·05	...
Education	...	9·45
Medical	...	4·62
Famine Relief	...	15·55
Minor Departmental Irrigation Works ...	...	1·01
Departmental Civil Works	...	3·25

The increase under Land Revenue was due to higher establishment charges under the Pike Scheme, the appointment of a Settlement Commissioner with staff, grain compensation allowances and progress in the reorganization of deputy collectors. The rise under Forests was caused by higher expenditure on conservancy and works, on establishment owing to the appointment of a Chief Conservator of Forests, and by the increased cost of the resin and sleeper scheme operations in the Kumaun circle. Under Courts of Law extra expenditure was incurred on salaries and establishment owing to further introduction of the Greeven Scheme, on larger payments of grain compensation allowances, on larger fees to counsel employed in criminal cases and on the reorganization of deputy collectors referred to above. Under Police the enhancement was due mainly to an increase in salaries and in particular to the raising of the minimum pay of constables. Under Miscellaneous the greater part of the increase was incurred in expenditure on donations chiefly for the relief of distress caused by floods. The year was fortunately free from famine. Under Education and Medical considerable curtailments of expenditure were made from the grants of the Government of India while under Civil Works retrenchments and smaller allotments were enforced by war considerations. The decline under Minor Departmental Irrigation Works calls for no comments.

237. The general results of the year's transactions as compared with the original budget estimates were as follows : Provincial budget.

	Budget.	Accounts.	Difference.
Opening balance	1,50,91	1,45,07	—5,84
Receipts	6,75,42	6,90,56	+15,14
Charges	6,90,25	6,80,28	—9,97
Closing balance	1,36,08	1,55,35	+19,27

The fall in the opening balance was due chiefly to higher expenditure in the closing months of 1914-15 than was allowed for in the revised budget of that year. The more important variations responsible for the improvements in receipt were: Increases—2·56 under Stamps, 1·24 under Income Tax, 4·45 under Interest, 1·46 under Courts of Law, 6·50 under Departmental Irrigation and 4·19 under Transfers between Imperial and Provincial. Decreases—2·17 under Excise, 3·52 under Forests, and 77 under Irrigation Major Works, Civil. The reasons for the enhancements under the heads Stamps and Interest have been given above. Under Income Tax the increase was due to reassessments and under Courts of Law to higher receipts from fees of qurk amins and process-servers and from magisterial fines and forfeitures. Under Departmental Irrigation the improvement is to be attributed to a more extensive use of canal water for rabi and kharif, and under Transfers between Imperial and Provincial to new assignments received during the year for irrigation tanks in Bundelkhand, for improvements both of pilgrim routes to Badrinath and Kedar Nath and in Lucknow city, and for the acquisition of land for the Hindu University in Benares. Of the decreases that under Excise was the result of the falling off in the still-head duty on country spirits. Under Forests the decline was due to lower receipts in the Kumaun circle, chiefly owing to larger outstandings and to late arrival of sleepers at the depôts, and to decreased receipts under firewood and charcoal, sale of grass and other minor produce. Under Irrigation, Major Works, Civil, the fall was due to the absorption of owners' receipts in the land revenue demand of new settlements. Under Expenditure the main

variations from the original budget were Increases—2·53 under Courts of Law, 2·18 under Jails, 3·78 under Police, and 1·15 under Departmental Irrigation Works, Decreases—2·92 under Land Revenue, 4·28 under Forests, 1·24 under General Administration, 6·52 under Education, 1·54 under Medical, 2·32 under Superannuation Allowances and Pensions, 65 under Miscellaneous and 3·09 under Departmental Civil Works. Under Courts of Law the chief items were higher fees to counsel especially in connection with the Benares Conspiracy case, larger requirements for extra and moveable courts, grain compensation payments and revision of establishments under the Pike Scheme. Under Jails the increase was due chiefly to the higher outlay on diet and clothing of prisoners. Under Police grain compensation allowances accounted for nearly two-thirds of the increase. Under Departmental Irrigation Minor works the rise was chiefly due to expenditure incurred out of the Government of India's grant for tank works in Bundelkhand and to higher outlay on the Rohilkhand canals and Sarda survey. Under Land Revenue the decrease was due mainly to the distribution among other departments of about 2·90 out of the budget allotment of 5·74 for the revision of clerical establishments under the Pike Scheme and to grants of grain allowance. Under Forests the decrease is explained by a number of minor causes. Under General Administration the decrease was due mainly to the non-utilization of the provision made in connection with the creation of an Executive Council in the province. Under Superannuation Allowances and Pensions the decline was caused by the re-employment of several pensioners. Under Education the fall was due mainly to curtailment of expenditure from the Government of India's grants to savings, in grants to indigenous industries, under college salaries owing to the deputation of officers to military duties and on the establishments of certain technical and industrial institutions and model girls' schools. Under Medical the decrease was due to short expenditure from the Government of India's grants and on plague prevention. Under Miscellaneous the decline was caused by the distribution over other heads of the budget of the lump provision originally included under this head to cover the grant of grain compensation allowances. Under Departmental Civil Works the decrease was the result of retrenchments.

47—Local revenues.

For details see the accounts of the excluded local funds published in the Government Gazette of the 2nd September, 1916, and the annual report on the working of district boards for the year ending 31st March, 1916.

238. The opening balance of excluded local funds was 86·01 lakhs. Receipts amounted to 129·16 lakhs and the expenditure to 131·09 as compared with 142·50 and 132·26 lakhs respectively in 1914, leaving a closing balance of 84·08 lakhs. Each class of fund taken as a whole was solvent. The finances of the district boards which form by far the most important item have been dealt with in detail in Chapter 3 of this report. The other chief heads were the cantonment, town and bazaar, police, medical and charitable and educational funds. The cantonment fund opened with a balance of 2·79 lakhs, received 9·87 lakhs and expended 9·53 lakhs. The corresponding figures for the town and bazaar funds were 2·14, 4·69 and 4·68 lakhs respectively. The police funds which are for police remounts and police clothing started the year with Rs. 24,347 in hand; their income totalled Rs. 24,366 and their expenditure Rs. 26,854. Medical and charitable funds received 1·61 lakhs during the year and expended 1·90 lakhs leaving a closing balance of 1·48 lakhs. The educational funds consisted of the Lyall collegiate school fund (Gonda) and the Colvin Institute fund (Sitapur). The totals for their combined opening balances, receipts and charges were Rs. 12,730, Rs. 16,808 and Rs. 25,855 respectively. The number of towns under the operation of Act 2 of 1914 remained unchanged at 257.

48—Municipal Funds.

(*For details see the annual review of municipal administration for the year ending* 31*st March*, 1916.)

239. The aggregate opening balance of the municipalities of the province was 34·74 lakhs as compared with 42·54 at the commencement of the previous year. Receipts and expenditure during the year, including loans and deposits, totalled 105·01 and 103·91 lakhs respectively as against 97·04 and 104·84 respectively in the previous year. The closing balance was thus 35·84 lakhs. The income of the 48 notified areas of the province excluding opening balance increased from 3·22 to 3·45 lakhs and their expenditure from 3·49 to 3·77. Their closing balances aggregated 1·66 lakhs.

CHAPTER VI.—VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICES.

49—Details of census.

See under "Details of the last census," Chapter 1 of the report for 1911-12.

50—Births and deaths.

(For details see the annual report of the Sanitary Commissioner for the year ending the 31*st December,* 1915, *and the tables under the head "Vital Statistics, Part V—Statistics of British India.)*

Births.

240. Owing to the transfer of 65 revenue estates with a population of 14,552 from the Meerut district to the Delhi province with effect from April 1, 1915, the birth and death-rates shown below are calculated per thousand on a population of 46,824,194, i.e. the mean between the figures of the last census and the present population. The number of births registered during the year was 2,036,121 as compared with 2,104,554 in 1914: the birth-rate thus fell from 44·93 to 43·48, the average for the last quinquennium being 44·56. The falls occurred in the months of February, May and June, when the lowest point was reached: the birth-rate then rose till it reached its highest point in September: October was stationary: a fall in November was followed by a rise in December. The proportion of male to female births was 108·76 to 100, practically the same as in the last five years. The provincial birth-rate exceeded the death-rate by 13·44 as against 11·47 in 1914. The excess was general everywhere except in Naini Tal, Bareilly, and Pilibhit, where the death-rate was high on account of cholera and fever: in Naini Tal too the birth-rate was low. Among districts with high birth-rates Bijnor headed the list with 49·25 followed by Farrukhabad (49·16), Agra (48·94), Hardoi (48·64), Jalaun (47·93), Shahjahanpur (47·16) and Moradabad (46·31). Naini Tal and Dehra Dun, owing to their fluctuating populations, had the lowest birth-rates as usual, viz. 29·40 and 25·44, respectively. The number of births registered in the 84 municipalities of the province increased from 127,929 to 131,600 and the birth-rate from 43·55 to 44·79. Firozabad (Agra) had the highest figure with 68·90 and was followed by Kasganj (Etah) with 61·35, Tilhar (Shahjahanpur) with 58·87, Nagina (Bijnor) with 56·61, Balrampur (Gonda) with 56·54, and Najibabad (Bijnor) with 55·80. The municipalities with the lowest rates were Mussoorie (12·85), Lakhimpur (Kheri) with 17·32, and Naini Tal (19·11): the low figures in Lakhimpur appear to be due to defective registration. Fifty-two municipalities had birth-rates exceeding death-rates, Kandhla (Muzaffarnagar) showing the highest excess (29·92): the excess for the entire municipal area rose from 2·60 to 3·15. In the 47 notified areas the number of births rose from 14,349 to 14,462 and the birth-rate from 42·03 to 42·36.

Deaths.

241. The total number of deaths registered during the year decreased from 1,567,266 to 1,406,743 and the death-rate fell from 33·46 to 30·04. Pilibhit showed the highest death-rate with 52·97 and was followed by Bareilly with 51·48, while Bijnor, Naini Tal, and Moradabad all exceeded 40, the mortality being due chiefly to fever. The number of deaths in municipal towns rose from 120,278 to 122,337 and the death-rate from 40·95 to 41·64. The highest death-rate was that of 76·06 in Khurja (Bulandshahr) which was followed by Chandpur (Bijnor) with 65·58, Nagina (Bijnor) with 62·42, Pilibhit with 62·18, and Brindaban (Muttra) with 60·62: plague, fever and cholera were the chief contributory causes. The municipalities showing the greatest excesses of death-rate over birth-rate were Khurja with 27·28, Brindaban with 26·35, Chandpur with 21·04 and Bisalpur (Pilibhit) with 20·03. In notified areas deaths decreased from 11,694 to 11,668 and the death-rate from 34·25 to 34·17. The lowest death-rate occurred in February: this was followed by a rise till May: June and July witnessed a fall: the rate then rose, the highest point being touched in October and December owing to a protracted epidemic of cholera. Deaths among males numbered 732,610 and among females 674,133, the corresponding death-rates being 29·95

and 30·15 as against 33·35 and 33·58 in 1914. Mortality among males was higher than among females except during the ages of 10 and 40. Infantile mortality fell from 233·5 to 205·1, the lowest figure on record for the last 35 years with the exception of 1893: good results were obtained from the 87 travelling dispensaries and the training of 874 *dhais*, 418 of whom passed in midwifery and the care of children. Infantile mortality was highest in Naini Tal with 352·19 followed by Bareilly, Bijnor, Jhansi, and Lucknow, which all exceeded 250. Among municipalities the worst record was held by Kashipur (Naini Tal) with 412·86 and Mau (Jhansi) with 377·47. The average municipal rate was 277·76 as against 292·90 in 1914.

Registration of vital statistics.

242. The Deputy Sanitary Commissioners tested 8,635 birth and death entries as against 8,009 in 1914, the low number being due to the fact that only one of the two was able to devote his time to verification. Entries tested by local authorities fell from 525,381 to 508,325: the percentage of omissions discovered being 3·39 and 2·42 in birth and death registrations respectively as against 3·35 and 2·35 in 1914. The vaccination staff tested 804,025 entries, a decrease of 8,618 on the previous year, and the percentage of omissions detected fell from ·31 to ·28 for births and from ·18 to ·14 for deaths. The number of persons fined for neglect to comply with registration rules rose from 1,984 to 2,992.

Cholera.

243. Cholera accounted for no fewer than 90,508 deaths as against 32,498 in 1914 and the death-rate rose from ·69 to 1·93, the quinquennium average being 1·41. The minimum mortality occurred in January. March witnessed a large increase, which was due to the outbreak of the disease in the Kumbh fair at Brindaban. Deaths rose in May and June. In July there was a lull followed however by rises in August and October, when the maximum mortality was reached. Garhwal was the worst sufferer with a mortality of 11·51 and was followed by Pilibhit with 11·19 and Almora with 9·68. Jhansi, Meerut, Hamirpur, and Banda were practically free. The highest rate for towns was that of 15·43 at Jalesar (Etah), the average being 1·38. The cholera scheme of 1915 cannot be said to have proved an unqualified success as more than half the deaths occurred in the 20 districts under its programme. It appears that the scheme can be applied to restricted areas, but cannot cope with foci distributed broadcast as they were this year after the Hardwar Kumbh mela.

Small-pox.

244. The death-rate from small-pox fell from ·38 to ·05, the quinquennial average being ·13. Of a total of 2,304 deaths 801 occurred among infants and 1,034 among children aged from 1 to 10 as against 5,591 and 10,636 in 1914. The mortality was highest in May and lowest in November. The provincial average was exceeded in 7 only out of 48 districts. Two districts, Jalaun and Hamirpur, were quite free. Only in the towns of Cawnpore, Brindaban, and Benares did deaths exceed 10 in number.

Plague.

245. Plague was responsible for 58,128 deaths as compared with 103,954 in 1914, the death-rates being 1·24 and 2·22, respectively, as compared with the quinquennial average of 3·47. The maximum monthly mortality was in March with 17,797 deaths and the minimum in July with 30 deaths. No cases were reported from the five districts of Dehra Dun, Jalaun, Hamirpur, Almora, and Garhwal. Azamgarh had the largest mortality with 7·51 and was followed by Ghazipur with 7·46 and Ballia with 6·61. Twenty-eight towns were free, while in 21 the number of deaths did not exceed 10: the worst sufferers were Chandpur (Bijnor) with a death-rate of 31·69, Khairabad (Sitapur) with 28·27, and Khurja (Bulandshahr) with 23·81. The number of persons inoculated fell from 81,302 to 45,561, of whom 28,452 were unoculated by travelling dispensaries: the eastern districts —notably Ballia with 13,501—naturally showed the highest inoculation figures.

Fever.

246. During the year 957,299 deaths were reported from fever as against 1,050,506 in 1914 and the death-rate fell from 22·43 to 20·44, the quinquennial average being 24·40. The figures were the smallest for the last 35 years with two exceptions. Mortality was at its lowest in February. March to May saw a rise followed by a fall in June and July. An autumnal rise then set in and December returned the highest figures. The highest death-rate was in Bareilly (41·67): Naini Tal came second with 39·10:

Banda, Fatehpur, and Allahabad were the districts most free from the malady. Among the towns Sherkot (Bijnor) stood first with a death-rate of 52·12: Khurja in Bulandshahr also exceeded 40 per cent., Meerut was third lowest city with a death-rate of only 5·12. The death-rate of all urban areas fell from 19·72 to 18·64. The provincial and divisional malarial committees met during the year and the preventive measures included the giving of lectures and lantern demonstrations and the distribution of various malaria pamphlets at several exhibitions and fairs. Progress was made with the special anti-malarial schemes in the towns of Saharanpur, Nagina, Meerut, and Kosi. School quininization was carried out in 28 districts, in 19 according to the Government aided scheme and in nine unaided. Prophylactic doses were given to 154,181 teachers, scholars, and servants in 2,120 schools as well as to the provincial police, jail staff and prisoners. The sale of rupee packets of quinine amounted to Rs. 7,124 as against Rs. 6,756 in 1914. Five cases of enteric were reported from Naini Tal. Measures were taken to improve the sanitary condition of Bhim Tal. Relapsing fever was reported from the districts of Moradabad and Budaun.

Dysentery, diarrhoea, and respiratory diseases.

247. Dysentery and diarrhoea accounted for 19,477 deaths as against 18,436 in 1914, and the death-rate rose from ·39 to ·41, the quinquennial average being ·39. The mortality was highest in August and lowest in February. Garhwal and Almora, as usual, were the districts that suffered most. The death-rate in urban areas was much higher than in rural areas. Respiratory diseases according to the returns were responsible for 24,236 deaths as against 23,518 in 1914, the death-rate being ·52 against the quinquennial average of ·47. November had the highest mortality and June the lowest. Hamirpur district again headed the list. Urban areas had a death-rate of 4·86 as against ·21 for rural areas. The figures for respiratory diseases still continued to be unreliable, although showing some improvement.

Injuries.

248. Deaths from injuries rose from 25,884 to 27,968, the death-rate being ·60 against the quinquennial average of ·52. Suicides totalled 2,463 as against 2,335 in 1914: of these 1,799 were among females. Snakes and wild beasts killed 7,000 persons as compared with 6,030 in 1914, while deaths from rabies rose from 191 to 280.

All other causes.

249. All other causes accounted for 226,823 deaths as against 294,516 in 1914. The decrease was due to the fall in deaths owing to measles from 60,599 to 8,250.

51—Emigration and Immigration.

(For details see the annual report on the working in the United Provinces of the Assam Labour and Emigration Act, VI of 1901, *for the year ending the* 30*th June,* 1916, *the annual report on Emigration from the Port of Calcutta to British and Foreign Colonies for* 1915 *and the tables under the head "Emigration," Part V—Statistics of British India.)*

Foreign emigration.

250. Of the 5,975 emigrants registered at the port of Calcutta during 1915 for the colonies of Demerara, Trinidad and Fiji 5,420 or 90·71 per cent. were recruited in the United Provinces. Classification according to birth also gave the same provinces a percentage of 88. In the previous year out of 5,145 emigrants to the above three colonies and to Surinam, emigration to which was suspended in the year under review, 86·56 per cent. were recruited in these provinces. The districts from which the largest number of emigrants was obtained in the year under report were Cawnpore (1,167), Basti (891), Lucknow (672), and Fyzabad (520). Basti was the district of birth of 1,285 emigrants and Gonda of 456. Of the 1,155 emigrants returned to all parts of India only, 9·70 per cent. brought back savings. Money order remittances were also less than in the previous year.

Inland emigration.

251. Recruiting under Chapter IV of the Assam Labour and Emigration Act, VI of 1901, was carried on in 20 districts. About 4,750

coolies, many of them women and children, were recruited. There was no recruitment under Chapter V of the Act. The condition of dépôts was generally satisfactory. Cases of infringement of rules and irregularities in recruitment were reported from the Cawnpore, Jaunpur, Basti, and Fatehpur districts: the offenders were punished and the persons recruited were repatriated in all cases. Considerable progress has been made with stopping illegal methods of recruiting in Basti district: other districts, however, e. g. Benares and Fatehpur, complain of the prevalence of irregularities and the difficulties to be met in bringing the offenders to book.

252. No statistics are maintained. **Immigration.**

52.—Medical Relief.

(For details see the annual report on the administration of civil hospitals for the year ending the 31st December, 1915, and the tables under the head "Hospitals," "Part V—Statistics of British India.)

253. The year 1915 opened with 576 dispensaries exclusive of travelling dispensaries and closed with 637, of which 47 were travelling dispensaries and are now definitely classed with state public dispensaries: the detail of the remaining 590 were as follows:—4 state public, 74 state special, 48 private aided, 47 private unaided, 55 railway, and 362 local fund. The police and canal departments maintained the bulk of the state special dispensaries. During the year 5,056,531 patients were treated at state public, local fund, and private aided dispensaries as against 4,508,345 in 1914. Indoor attendance increased from 75,426 to 77,277. The proportion of deaths to the total number of in-patients treated fell from 4·62 to 4·17. The number of surgical operations performed during the year increased from 217,014 to 235,822 and the number of persons operated on from 209,899 to 227,526. The number cured increased from 194,389 to 213,837, while deaths occurred in 569 cases or only 13 more than last year. Travelling dispensaries continued to do good work and were attended by 340,093 persons. The number of persons treated at police and railway hospitals, canal and forest dispensaries and private unaided institutions, rose appreciably from 723,007 to 737,644. **Dispensaries.**

254. Lady doctors and female sub-assistant surgeons paid 5,997 visits as against 5,036 in 1914: of these 3,878 were medical, 724 were surgical, and 1,395 were midwifery cases. **Lady doctors.**

255. Including an opening balance of 2·43 lakhs, the total receipts of state public local fund and private aided hospitals and dispensaries amounted to 18·74 lakhs as compared with 17·67 lakhs in 1914. Expenditure rose from 15·24 to 16·48 lakhs and was partly due to the increased cost of medicines. Local fund contributions were raised from 7·50 to 8·59 lakhs and municipal fund contributions from 1·08 to 1·10 lakhs. Subscriptions from Europeans fell from Rs. 22,917 to Rs. 21,049, while those from Indians rose from Rs. 1,26,759 to Rs. 1,34,069. Rupees 4,57,399 were spent on medical buildings, original works, and Rs. 1,66,294 on repairs. Rupees 63,933 was invested during the year as against Rs. 56,423 in 1914 and by the end of the year the invested capital had risen from 16·02 to 16·28 lakhs. **Financial.**

256. The system of charging fees from well-to-do patients was continued through the year and worked successfully: the income rose from Rs. 14,059 to Rs. 14,593. King George's Medical College finished the year with 134 students as against 108 in 1914: 33 out of 39 students passed the first M.B.B.S. examination and none failed out of the 19 who appeared for group A of the M.B.B.S. final examination. His Excellency the Viceroy visited the Bhowali sanitorium and was very pleased with it. In Lucknow good work was done in the tuberculosis hospital. The tuberculosis league in Lucknow disseminated medical education among the people and a fresh branch was opened in Benares. A number of Indian Medical Service officers and military assistant surgeons were recalled to military duty, with the result that many districts were left in the charge of civil assistant surgeons. **General.**

53—Sanitation.

(For details see the annual report of the Sanitary Commissioner for the year ending the 31st December, 1915, the annual report of the Sanitary Engineer for the year ending the 31st March, 1916, and the tables under the head "Area, population, and public health," Part V—Statistics of British India.)

Municipalities.

257. The total expenditure incurred on works of a sanitary nature under the supervision of the Sanitary Engineer during the year ending the 31st March, 1916, amounted to 23·36 lakhs. Of this sum 9·83 lakhs were spent on water-works (original), 6·28 lakhs on water works (maintenance) and 7·04 on drainage works. The chief items in the expenditure on water-works original were 1·67 lakhs at Agra, ·93 lakh at Cawnpore, ·88 lakh at Lucknow, 1·18 lakhs at Hardwar, and 2·37 lakhs at Muttra, while of the amount spent on drainage schemes Allahabad absorbed 1·56 lakhs, Benares ·91 lakhs, Bahraich 1·14 lakhs, and Muttra ·82 lakhs. Nearly all the larger and many of the smaller municipalities had drainage or water-works in process of construction. Eighteen tube wells were sunk during the year, of which 17 proved successful. Samples of water were tested whenever water-works were in progress: the results were all satisfactory except at Allahabad, where Rs. 10,000 were spent in the renewing the sand beds of the filters.

Fairs.

258. The Magh Mela was held at Allahabad from the 1st January to the 12th February and passed off without any epidemic disease. The Kumbh Mela at Brindaban, which occurs once in 12 years, took place in February, 1915. Instead of an anticipated probable gathering of one lakh actually four to five lakhs of persons attended and sanitation was rendered more difficult by the fact that many of the pilgrims whose habits left much to be desired stayed on in the town where they were instrumental in spreading cholera. Altogether 220 cases and 174 deaths occurred. The Kumbh Mela at Hardwar, which is also held once every 12 years, took place this year: the chief bathing day fell on the 13th April. Cholera germs were brought on from Brindaban and between 15th March and 28th April there were 302 deaths. The Dadri fair at Ballia, the Garhmukhtesar fair in the Meerut district, the Tigri fair in the Moradabad district and the Batesar fair in the Agra district were all held in November; the attendance at the two first-named fairs were five and eight lakhs, respectively. All passed off without any epidemic. All the above fairs except the last three were attended by the Sanitary Commissioner or a Deputy Sanitary Commissioner. A large number of smaller fairs also passed off successfully except in the case of the Dhaighat fair in the Shahjahanpur district, where six cases of cholera occurred.

Sanitary Board.

259. The Sanitary Board held 10 meetings during the year. The total sum at the disposal of the Board for expenditure on sanitary works during the year amounted to 6·50 lakhs of which five lakhs were the grant for the budget year 1915-16. Out of this sum the allotment made by the Board amounted to 5·89 lakhs. Of the grant sanctioned by the Government of India for urban sanitation 5·50 lakhs were provided by Government for expenditure during the current year. Projects amounting to 7·05 lakhs were either administratively sanctioned or approved. Many other schemes were approved and placed on the programme of works to be undertaken by the Sanitary Engineer.

General.

260. Sanitary classes were held in the winter months of 1914-15 and 22 out of 31 candidates passed the first year's course and 14 out of 21 the second year's course. The "Prevention of Adulteration of Food and Drugs Act" was in force in the municipalities of Lucknow, Bareilly, Allahabad, Cawnpore, and Benares during the year. Projects submitted by the Sanitary Engineer and sanctioned during the year 1915-16 were estimated at 8·97 lakhs: those prepared but not yet sanctioned at ·37 lakhs and those on which preparation was in hand at 75 lakhs.

54—Vaccination.

(For details see the annual report on vaccination for the year ending the 31st March, 1916, and the tables under the head "Vaccination," Part V—Statistics of British India.)

Establishment and charges.

261. As mentioned before, 65 revenue estates were transferred from the Meerut district to the Delhi province with effect from April 1, 1915. The number of vaccinators was reduced from 925 to 887, while that of assistant superintendents remained 49. The total expenditure fell from Rs. 2,47,803 to Rs. 2,41,602: the decrease was due to the fact that the posts of two I. M. S. Deputy Sanitary Commissioners who had reverted to military duty in 1914 remained vacant throughout the year.

Vaccinations.

262. The number of persons vaccinated declined from 1,643,549 to 1,615,558. Primary vaccinations and revaccinations also both decreased by 19,911 and 6,106 to 1,523,656 and 104,711. Secondary operations rose from 10,835 to 12,809. The percentage of successful primary vaccinations and revaccinations was 97·34 and 74·46 as compared with 97·35 and 71·76 in the previous year. The number of persons successfully vaccinated per mille of population fell from 33·22 to 32·81. The general decrease, except in the case of secondary operations, cannot be called satisfactory. Garhwal, as usual, headed the list of best protected districts with a proportion of 75·39 persons. Almora came second, followed by Naini Tal, Hamirpur, Jalaun, and Ballia. The least protected districts were Bara Banki (23·11), Sultanpur (24·43), Rae Bareli (25·37), and Farrukhabad (25·88). The proportion of successful operations on children under one year of age continued to show steady improvement. The average cost of each successful case of vaccination was two annas.

Inspections.

263. Deputy Sanitary Commissioners and District Superintendents of Vaccination inspected 231,067 vaccinations as against 219,068 in the previous year. The percentage of cases found successful fell from 97·29 to 96·61 for primary vaccinations and rose from 57·03 to 69·82 for revaccinations. Assistant superintendents and other inspecting officers inspected 684,089 vaccinations as compared with 668,766 in the previous year and the percentage of cases found successful was 96·65 for primary vaccinations and 56·91 for secondary vaccinations as against 96·36 and 52·23 in 1914-15.

Lymph.

264. The Provincial Bovine Lymph dépôt at Patwa Dangar in the Naini Tal district issued 83,110 grammes of lymph as against 94,547 in the previous year. The gross income of the dépôt fell from Rs. 39,174 to Rs. 31,056 and the net profit after meeting expenditure from Rs. 18,652 to Rs. 9,596. The decrease was due to the fact that a lymph dépôt was started at Namkun in Bihar and Orissa which took the place of the dépôt at Patwa Dangar in supplying that province. Calf lymph vaccination superseded arm-to-arm vaccination in six more districts, with the result that the latter method now survives only in the district of Garhwal: calf lymph vaccination continued to be used in all municipalities and notified areas.

CHAPTER VII.—INSTRUCTION.

55—General system of education.

(See page 81 of the report for the year 1911-12.)

56—Education.

(For details see the annual report on public instruction for the year ending 31st March, 1916, and the tables under the head "Education," "Part VII—Statistics of British India.")

General.

265. A good deal of the time of the department was taken up in choosing text-books for both English and Vernacular schools. Each of the sub-committees of the Text-Book Committee met three times during the year. The total number of publications considered during the year was 807, of which 212 were approved and the remainder rejected. Curricula of girls' schools were also reviewed by committees. A number of special measures were sanctioned by Government for the extension of Muhammadan education. The department and the boards were engaged in the preparation of scheme to give effect to orders on the schemes which were passed by Government at the close of the year, on the recommendations of the Primary Education Committee. An important reform introduced during the year was the use of the vernacular as the sole medium of instruction in all classes up to class VIII. Private institutions, as the result of prevailing high prices and money scarcity, fell from 5,059 to 4,934. The expenditure from the Government of India grants amounted to 2·25 lakhs recurring and 7·85 lakhs non-recurring.

Number of institutions and scholars.

266. The total number of institutions of all kinds decreased by 170 to 17,631, but that of scholars attending them rose from 832,454 to 841,334. A fall of 4,335 scholars in private institutions was more than counterbalanced by an increase of 13,215 scholars in public institutions. The percentage of scholars to the population of school-going age rose from 11·85 to 11·97.

Expenditure.

267. The total expenditure on education fell from 141·56 to 139·19 lakhs. The expenditure met from provincial revenues fell from 54·60 to 46·60 lakhs, that from municipal funds from 5·05 to 4·60 lakhs, while that from district funds rose from 32·34 to 37·14 lakhs.

University.

268. Lectures were delivered by the three University professors of Sanskrit, History, and Economics as also by the University Sanskrit and Pali reader and the reader in Economics. Valuable research work was done by the various professors and readers, Economics proving the most attractive subject to students. A large number of books and publications were secured for the library, which, together with two hostels, was completed during the year. The first number of the *Indian Journal of Economics* was published in February, 1916. Of the 4,959 candidates for the University matriculation examination, 1,354 were successful while in the intermediate examination the figures were 996 out of 2,446. The results of the other chief University examinations were as follows: for the B.A. 527 passed out of 1,245, for the previous LL.B. 315 out of 625, for the final LL.B. 278 out of 405, and for the B.Sc. 94 out of 182. As compared with last year, both candidates and passes, notably the former, showed an increase. The total income of the University was Rs. 3,04,654, of which the fee income was Rs. 1,80,296. The total expenditure was Rs. 2,50,691, of which Rs. 12,600 was spent on the Law College.

Collegiate education

269. The total number of students receiving collegiate education rose from 7,121 to 7,487: of these 5,443 were learning English, 3,369 a classical language, and 280 a vernacular. The number at the English Arts colleges again increased from 4,321 to 4,731. Two colleges were affiliated for the first time up to the B.A. stage, and most colleges increased their facilities for the teaching of Science: a new chemical laboratory was

completed at the Ewing Christian College, Allahabad, and new laboratories were under construction at the Muhammadan Anglo-Oriental College, Aligarh, and the Agra College. There are still however complaints of the pressure in accommodation principally as to intermediate classes, which are congested with students entirely unfitted for University work. The number of resident students showed a steady increase. The new hostels built at Canning College and the Lucknow Christian College were occupied in the course of the year and additions or improvements were made in many other colleges. At some colleges a special warden or censor was appointed to look after the interests of non-resident students. Many of the colleges were directly affected by the war, large numbers of the staff going on active service. Oriental colleges decreased from 21 to 20, but the number of scholars increased slightly from 1,529 to 1,534. Two thousand nine hundred and ninety-six candidates appeared at the Benares Sanskrit College examination as compared with 2,759 in the previous year: the standard of success however was lower. During the year the special Inspectors of Sanskrit Pathshalas and Arabic Madrassas appointed to consider what measures could be taken to preserve and develop indigenous schools of Sanskrit and Arabic learning started to examine the present position of such schools in these provinces. Only 13 candidates appeared for the Fazil examination and six were successful, while 23 out of 36 candidates passed in the Mulla examination. The number of students at Law schools fell from 693 to 575, while the enrolment in the University school of Law fell from 400 to 308. Two hostels attached to the school of Law were completed during the year. The number of students at King George's Medical College, Lucknow, rose from 108 to 133. In the first M.B.B.S. examination 16 passed out of 29, while 31 out of 43 candidates were successful in the final M.B.B.S. The total expenditure on collegiate education rose from 17·14 to 18·07 lakhs, of which 4·32 were from fees. The English colleges absorbed 11·37 lakhs, oriental colleges 60,000 Engineering 3·28 lakhs, Medicine 1·12 lakhs and Law ½ lakh.

Secondary education.

270. The number of secondary public schools (high schools and middle schools, English and vernacular) for Indian boys rose from 594 to 611, while the number of scholars attending them fell from 102,042 to 97,048: the decrease was wholly in vernacular schools, where the enrolment owing to the separation of classes III and IV nominally fell from 53,346 to 46,863, while the numbers in English schools increased from 48,538 to 50,185. High schools went up in number from 113 to 119, English middle schools from 77 to 81; and vernacular middle schools from 404 to 411. The expenditure on high schools and English Middle schools totalled 22·39 lakhs of which the fee income amounted to 10·45 lakhs. The average cost of education in a Government school was Rs. 54·5 per boy and in an aided school Rs. 39·3. The expenditure on vernacular middle schools increased from 5·29 to 5·39 lakhs, of which 1·27 lakhs were met from the fee income. Candidates from these provinces for the University matriculation examination went up in numbers from 2,251 to 2,408, but the percentage of passes declined still further from 36 to 29. A far better result was shown in the school-leaving certificate examination, in which 996 out of 2,135 or 47 per cent. passed, last year's figures being 969 out of 1,916. In the vernacular final examination the number of candidates rose from 11,643 to 13,843, while the percentage of passes fell from 61·62 to 59. As proposed by the Primary Education Committee, the course of study for this examination is about to be extended from six to seven years and a 7th class is being added to vernacular middle schools. As already noted, the vernacular has been much the medium of instruction for all subjects except English, up to the middle standard. Considerable improvement was made in the pay of teachers during the year. New buildings for the Government High Schools at Muzaffarnagar and Hardoi were completed during the year. Progress was made with the new buildings for the Jubilee High School, Gorakhpur, and the Government School, Bahraich. Additions were made to class-room accommodation at the Government High School, Fatehpur. Several schools with the aid of Government grants considerably increased their accommodation. Many vernacular

middle schools were either rebuilt or extended. A new hostel was created for the Government School, Unao, and another was under construction for the Government School, Etawah. Government contributed Rs. 11,000 towards clearing away undesirable buildings near the Islamia High School, Etawah. Some improvement was made in hostel accommodation in vernacular middle schools, but this is still in general far from adequate. High School committees continue to be criticized as inefficient.

Primary education.

271. The total number of primary schools of a public character for Indian boys fell from 10,537 to 10,471. Aided schools showed a decrease of 489 : many of these were converted into district board schools, while others which had ceased to fulfil the conditions now insisted upon had their grants withdrawn. The Allahabad district, in which the chairman has introduced the half-time system, was a notable exception as its aided schools increased by 51. The enrolment in board schools rose by 31,775, while that of aided schools fell by 17,023. The total number of pupils in primary schools rose by 3 per cent. to 628,367 and the total expenditure on them increased from 21·92 to 24·30 lakhs, the extra cost being chiefly due to the separation of primary classes attached to middle schools from the accounts of middle schools, the appointment of extra teachers, the conversion of aided schools into district board schools, and the opening of new schools. Upper primary schools managed by district and municipal board schools showed an increase of 308. The number of scholars in upper primary classes rose from 64,718 to 80,613. The prejudice against the depressed classes is slowly dying out and the special schools opened for these classes proved attractive : the Arya Samaj in particular did good work in promoting their educational progress. Out of 16,585 teachers in primary schools 9,235 or 56 per cent. were trained men. The figures are rising year by year, but at present the supply cannot meet the demand. In aided schools there were only 160 trained men to 4,246 teachers. The prospects of the half-time system are still doubtful as the Allahabad experiment has not yielded any decisive results. School gardens were started in several districts. In Gorakhpur district private schools teaching commercial subjects have proved so successful that commercial classes are now being opened in some of the district board schools in trade centres.

Training and supply of teachers.

272. The number of students in the Allahabad Training College increased from 34 to 43 and in the Lucknow Training College from 54 to 59. Only four Muhammadans applied for admission to the Allahabad Training College—a very disappointing result after last year's promise. The material showed a slight improvement, the percentage of third class degree-men rising from 66 to 77. The staff was strengthened during the year and can now train 50 men annually. Superintendent's quarters were built during the year. Manual training continued to be a feature of both colleges. Ten candidates from Naini Tal and Mussooree passed the certificate for training in European schools. Out of 510 students under training in the six normal schools for the training of teachers 259 sat for the vernacular teachers' certificate examination and 220 or 85 per cent. passed. Training classes increased from 228 to 254 and the number of pupils reading in them from 1,365 to 1,680. The number of training institutions for mistresses in Indian schools remained 14 as in the previous year, while the number of students, most of whom were Indian Christians, rose from 117 to 120.

Technical education.

273. Technical and industrial schools numbered 30 as against 34 in the previous year, but their enrolment rose from 1,970 to 1,988. Commercial schools remained there as before with an enrolment of 119 as against 113. The Technical school, Lucknow, went up in numbers from 81 to 111. Four students completed their training in the mechanics section and were appointed to the Locomotive department of the Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway. Nine students completed their training in the automobile drivers' class. Good work was done in the turning of shells. The Technical school, Gorakhpur, went up in numbers from 67 to 78. Sixteen students passed out of the school during the year and found apprenticeship either in the Bengal and North-Western or the Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway. Government has

sanctioned the building of a hostel with accommodation for 29 students. The school will shortly assist in the manufacture of munitions. The School of Arts and Crafts, Lucknow, had 118 students on its roll up to May, 1915, the end of the session, and the average daily attendance was 110 as against 105 in the previous year. No less than 92 sat for the entrance and the new session started on 1st August, 1915, with an enrolment of 162, but after the weeding out of inefficients the year ended with a total of 139 on the register. As the school was only in its fourth year none of the students had completed their full 5-year course, but five students who had received special training got employment. Evening classes were opened for drawing, cabinet-making, and goldsmiths' work. The Government Carpentry school, Bareilly, continued to do satisfactorily: there were 46 students on the roll and the average attendance was 44·95. A night school was opened in February, and attracted large numbers. The institution is handicapped for want of a hostel. In the Central Weaving Institute, Benares, there were 52 on the rolls at the end of March, 1916, as compared with 56 in the previous year. Seven students who had completed their course were apprenticed to mills, but refused to stay on the ground that they could not earn sufficient wages. A special class was started for the weaving caste of Julahas: but they demanded scholarships and left when these were not forthcoming. During the year all the district aided weaving schools were inspected. The Deoband school was closed. The other schools including Tanda made very little progress. On the other hand, peripatetic weaving classes started in Budaun and Etawah gained considerable popularity. The Dyeing school started in Cawnpore in July, 1914, proved distinctly successful: the school was made a centre for the City and Guilds of London examination: demonstrations of dyeing were given by pupils at four district fairs. The Government Leather Working school at Cawnpore, opened in December, 1915, attracted better class Muhammadans. The zenana section of the Hewett Weaving school at Bara Banki was closed and a Needlework school was started in Lucknow. Aided industrial schools totalled 11 with 738 pupils. The Prem Mahavidiala at Bindraban had an enrolment of 298; the peculiarity of the institution is that every student has to combine industrial training with his literary studies. The Medical school at Agra rose in numbers from 259 to 533—the highest figures since its inception in 1854: the increase was due to the fact that admissions were thrown open to the military class. Notwithstanding the lack of accommodation in the hostel to meet the large increase not a single complaint was received about the conduct of any student residing outside.

Female education.

274. The number of girls' schools declined from 1,402 to 1,384, but students increased from 46,279 to 47,368. The increase in pupils was as usual almost entirely in the lower primary classes. The total expenditure on female education rose from 5·37 to 5·76 lakhs. Provincial revenues had to meet an excess of Rs. 19,279 owing to increased grants to the Isabella Thoburn College and a few other schools. The increase in expenditure from municipal and district board funds was due to the raising of two schools to the middle standard and to the aiding of new schools. The number on the rolls of the Isabella Thoburn College, Lucknow, rose from 41 to 43: six students appeared in the B.A. examination and two were successful: 12 out of 21 candidates passed in the intermediate examination. English secondary public schools declined by one to 34 and the number of pupils in them from 3,716 to 3,559. High schools increased owing to the opening of a high section in the Crosthwaite Girls' School, Allahabad. Vernacular secondary schools increased from 33 to 38 and the number of scholars from 3,435 to 3,909. The number of model schools teaching up to the middle standard rose from 13 to 15. At the University matriculation examination only five girls were successful out of 38: at the Anglo-Vernacular middle examination 117 passed out of 191, while the vernacular final examination gave better results both in the number of candidates and passes. Primary schools went down in number from 1,080 to 1,058, but their enrolment increased by 207. While the supply of teachers, and the attitude by the population remain what they are, any considerable progress is unlikely.

Education of special classes.

275. The number of schools for Europeans and Anglo-Indians remained 68, viz. 43 secondary schools and 11 primary schools for boys and girls and 14 special technical and training schools, all of which were public institutions under private management. The enrolment in the above schools showed an increase from 5,166 to 5,395, the number of scholars in boys' secondary schools being 2,590, in girls' secondary schools 2,195, and in primary schools 300. Of the secondary schools 13 boys' and 16 girls' were high schools. The number of candidates in the high and middle school examinations fell from 144 and 189 to 89 and 68, the passes being respectively 64 and 62. The decline was due to the fact that this was the last year in which the above examinations will be held as they are being superseded by the Cambridge local examinations. The total expenditure on the above schools fell from 15·39 to 13·08 lakhs, the largest item being a fall of over two lakhs in grants for buildings and furniture. The decrease in expenditure was due to the great decline of 35 per cent. in private contributions. The fee income increased by Rs. 21,000 to 5½ lakhs: the enrolment at the Colvin Taluqdars' School at Lucknow was 45. Government made a grant of 1½ lakhs to the institution which has been credited to the endowment fund. The number of Hindu scholars increased by 4,699 to 675,965 and that of Muhammadans by 3,540 to 149,126. A number of special measures were sanctioned during the year by Government for the extension of Muhammadan education. Chief among these were the maintenance by district boards of special Islamia schools in villages, where an attendance of at least 20 Muhammadan boys can be guaranteed; grants-in-aid to *maktabs;* the formation of provincial and local *maktab* committees; the appointment of an additional inspector to advise on measures for the extension of Muhammadan education, and the creation of Muhammadan deputy inspector in each educational division. Building grants were made by Government during the year to four Muhammadan schools. It is to be hoped that this generosity on the part of Government towards the Muhammadan community will meet with a ready response from them.

57—Literature and the press.

(See the tables under the head "Printing Presses and Publications" Part VII—Statistics of British India.)

Literary publications.

276. The total number of publications registered during 1915 was 2,023 as against 2,042 in 1914. The chief increases were under the heads, Arts (14), Language (36), Miscellaneous (22), and Politics (27), while there were decreases of 21, 19, 16, 43, and 22 under the heads, "Fiction," "History," "Medicine," "Religion" and "Science (mathematical and mechanical)." Publications in Urdu declined by 20 per cent. to 362; but the decrease represents a return to normal figures, the output in the previous year having been unusually large. Hindi publications fell by one per cent. only to 942; Arabic rose from 5 to 6; Sanskrit increased by 40 per cent. to 74.

The predominant tone of most of the publications was one of bitter polemic. The Hindi enthusiasts would like to abolish Urdu at once and English later. The Hindu revivalist bitterly attacked Islam, while the Muhammadan wrote against not only the Hindus but also members of his own faith who belonged to another sect. There were extremely few books dealing with the war and these dealt rather with the origin and causes of the war than its actual progress. While the majority of these approved of the justice of Great Britain's cause, others adopted a more cautious and guarded language. Systematic attempts were made to push Hindi. Satya Deo produced a pamphlet, the "*Hindi ka sandesa*" (the message of Hindi) advocating Hindi as the universal language; he also attacked the *Quran* in two pamphlets. Sikh writers repudiated the suggestion that their religion was in the nature of a compromise. Several plays of Shakespeare were translated into Hindi. The Muhammadans on the whole were more temperate than their opponents, although when provoked by the Arya Samajists they showed that they could hit

back hard. A metrical translation of "*Paradise Lost*" appeared in Urdu. Nationalism assumed different aspects among the more extreme of the two protagonists. The Hindu would like an India ruled by Hindus in which all foreign customs, manners, etc., were blotted out. The Muhammadan wished that India should be part of a greater Pan-Islamic federation. The Arya Samajists would find in the Vedas a repository of knowledge far superior to anything seen in modern times. Pseudo-science and false history continued to flourish, hypnotism and astrology being popular subjects. One Hindu historian went so far as to say that the Japanese were the descendants of Aryan immigrants from India; while another represented the Emperors of China and Persia and a King of England as taking part at the bidding of "our forefathers" in the great *Mahabharat*. Social matters, such as caste literature, female education, widow-remarriage, etc., still continued to be popular themes; the writers however could not be said to have displayed any novelty, while some of them were distinctly reactionary. The only works of any real importance were those connected with pure scholarship and with medicine. Notable series were the Shyama Charan series brought out by the Panini office, volume 11 of the Jain Grantha Mala and the Chaukamba Sanskrit series. Perhaps the most interesting book of the year was that written by Dr. Brajendranath Seal on the physical sciences of the Hindus, dealing with a variety of scientific subjects. The second part of Said-ud-din's Kazerani's Arabic work on medicine appeared. No less than six books on medicine, all by Indian writers, were published in India. Major O. D. Basu brought out a fifth edition of his well-known work "*The Dietetic Treatment of Diabetes.*"

The Indian Press.

277. The number of newspapers and periodicals increased from 317 to 357. Of these, 65 were in English, 135 in Urdu, and 133 in Hindi. Allahabad contributed 53, Lucknow 51, Benares 43, Cawnpore 28, Meerut 27, Agra 25, Aligarh 15, Moradabad 13, Dehra Dun 12, and Muttra 10. Sixty-eight new publications were added to the list: 56 newspapers and periodicals ceased to exist.

Tone and policy.

278. The Indian papers, almost without exception, continued their agitation against the Press Act. Fifteen printing presses did not open at all and one was closed, two newspapers did not appear and one ceased publication in consequence of the demand of security under the Press Act and of action under the Defence of India Act. Formal warnings were conveyed to three persons connected with newspapers and presses by District Magistrates and three editors were warned by the Local Government. Apart from these few instances which serve to show the value of the special laws the general tone of the press was satisfactory and loyal to Government, with the exception of two or three Muslim papers, which sympathized with Turkey. The Muslim press generally was divided into two camps: one supporting the congress ideal of self-government and the other repudiating all ideas of reconciliation with Hindus. The war naturally continued to be an absorbing topic. Russia and Italy were not favourites with certain sections of the Muslim press. Many papers advocated the necessity for raising a large Indian army. They looked for the grant of commissions and the repeal of the Arms Act after the war. Government was urged to follow the example of Japan and to expand Indian trade. The claim was made that India should be placed in a position of absolute equality with the rest of the Empire. Leniency in the matter of internment of all enemy aliens was watched most jealously. On the other hand, the censorship, particularly of bad news, was thought to be much too strict. The opinion was expressed that the Bengal and Punjab Governments had made too free a use of their powers under the Defence of India Act. The sentences in the Lahore conspiracy case were held to err on the side of severity. Complaints were made of the highhandedness of the police, particularly in the matter of searches. Mrs. Besant was welcomed as the champion of Indian aspirations. A *rapprochement* between the moderates and extremists was much discussed. Sir S. P. Sinha's presidential speech on the subject of self-government at the congress meeting held in Bombay was almost universally condemned. Indian emigration to the colonies was a constant theme in the papers, which insisted on a scheme of mutual reciprocity. The rejection of the proposal for an Executive Council in the United Provinces by the House of Lords caused widespread disapproval.

Great interest was taken in the proceedings at Legislative Council meetings. The administration of Lord Hardinge was universally eulogised. The separation of the judicial from the executive and the introduction of a *panchayat* system were constantly advocated. In matters of finance the absence of fresh taxation was approved. There were the usual complaints as to the unfairness of the United Provinces Financial Settlement. Municipal affairs continued to be widely discussed. The question of separate representation was naturally a debateable point. Education was a favourite topic: the proposed Hindu and Muslim universities and Shia college were prominent subjects. General dissatisfaction was shown with the poor results obtained in the Allahabad university examination. The proposal to start a Technological Institute at Cawnpore was welcomed. The rise in price of foodgrains and the growth of the drink habit were popular themes. The nationalisation of all railways was advocated. Complaints were made as to the lack of accommodation for third class passengers. Government was advised not to interfere with the "*haj*" traffic in any way.

58—Literary Societies.

(See page 92 of the report for the year 1911-12.)

59—Arts and Sciences.

(For details see the annual report of the Lucknow provincial museum for the year ending 31st March, 1916.)

279. The class in archaeology started last year attracted seven students. Considerable improvements were effected in the Ethnographical section of the Museum both as regards the addition of specimens and their exhibition in suitable show cases. Important additions were also made to the Archaeological section. During the year under report 852 new objects were added to the Museum. Of these, 67 were archaeological, 199 belonged to ethnography, and 574 to numismatics: of the last named 442 coins were acquired by the Local Government as treasure trove. The number of visitors increased from 105,205 to 108,986: to this total must be added 754 "*pardanashin*" ladies and 1,004 "bona-fide" students. The gross increment of 4,128 over last year's figures was an eloquent testimony to the popularity of the Museum. Receipts for the year amounted to Rs. 270, and the expenditure to Rs. 15,286: the cost of maintenance to Government was thus Rs. 15,016 as against Rs. 14,013 in the previous year.

CHAPTER VIII.—ARCHAEOLOGY.

60—Archaeology.

(For details see the annual report of the Superintendent, Muhammadan and British Monuments, Northen circle, and of the Superintendent, Hindu and Buddhist Monuments, Northern circle, for the year ending 31*st March,* 1916.*)*

Conservation.

280. The amount spent on the conservation of Muhammadan and British monuments in the United Provinces was Rs. 62,379 as against Rs. 63,855 in the previous year. The Preservation of Ancient Monuments Act was applied to the following monuments—the Aligarh Fort, the enclosure containing the tombs of Colonel Gardner and his *begam* at Kasganj (Etah district), the tomb of Iftikhar Khan Nazim, at Chunar (Mirzapur district), and the Karbala of Talkatora in Lucknow. A sum of Rs. 31,196 was expended on special repairs. Masonry and platforms of the tombs of Shah Pir and Abu Muhammad Khan were repaired at a cost of Rs. 4,985. The Jama-i-Masjid at Agra absorbed Rs. 4,326, progress being made with the removal of straw *chappars*, while a new verandah of red stone was completed on the south and east. Rupees eight hundred and ninety-eight was spent on the electric installation at the Taj and Rs. 1,351 on the conservation of the tomb of Feroz Khan near Agra. Progress was made with the construction of the missing east causeway of the garden of Akbar's tomb at Sikandra and Rs. 2,458 was spent on it. Fatehpur Sikri absorbed Rs. 1,302 in special repairs and Rs. 3,882 in maintenance. A further sum of Rs. 1,538 was spent on the conservation of the tomb of Iftikhar Khan at Chunar. In Lucknow special repairs to the Karbala of Nasiruddin Hyder cost Rs. 2,400, while the Dar-ul Shafa absorbed Rs. 3,680. Annual repairs amounted to Rs. 32,095, of which Lucknow and Agra accounted for Rs. 14,276 and Rs. 12,974 respectively. The total expenditure on Hindu and Buddhist monuments in the United Provinces amounted to Rs. 10,452. Special repairs were confined to the Dhamekh *stupa* at Sarnath (Benares). Three godowns were erected at the Sarnath Museum and the garden there was laid out. No action was taken with regard to the conservation of the Dwarahat monuments in the Almora district although funds had been provided by the Local Government. Sankissa (Farrukhabad district) was brought under the operation of the Protection of Ancient Monuments Act, while a list of 18 monuments to be brought under the same Act was submitted to Government.

Exploration.

281. The honorary curator of the museum of Muttra cleared several wells during the year; including coins, the total finds amounted to no less than 680, many of them being of the Kushan and Gupta periods. No excavations were carried out at Sarnath. Some Buddhist sculptures were discovered in the Hamirpur district. A magical square totalling 34, each column and diagonally, was discovered among the monuments of Dudhai in Jhansi district.

CHAPTER IX.—MISCELLANEOUS.

61—Ecclesiastical jurisdiction.

(See page 94 of the report for the year 1911-12.)

62—Ecclesiastical.

282. The year was uneventful.

63—Stationery.

Stationery.

283. The total value of the stationery stores supplied to these provinces during 1915-16 was Rs. 5,16,525 as against Rs. 4,97,701 in the previous year. This rise was distributed as follows: stationery issued to offices (Rs. 13,308) and stationery issued to the Press (Rs. 5,516). The chief increases were under the following heads: Public Works (Rs. 8,808), Stationery and printing (Rs. 5,516), Law and justice (Rs. 1,335) and General administration (Rs. 1,239). The increase under "Public Works" was chiefly due to the supply of tracing-cloth to the Executive Engineers; that under "Stationery and printing" to the demand for paper and binding materials by the Superintendent, Government Press; that under "Law and justice" to the supply of printing paper and that under "General administration" to the requisition for azure-laid and typewriting papers and tracing-cloth by the Secretaries of the Public Works department and Board of Revenue. The only notable decrease was that of Rs. 1,326 under the head "Land revenue."

64—General—Miscellaneous.

Government Press.

284. The receipts of the Government Press for 1915-16 totalled Rs. 1,47,128 as compared with Rs. 1,39,131 in 1914-15. The main increases were under the heads—Indian Law Reports (Rs. 721), Gazettes (Rs. 1,165), Stock forms (Rs. 1,625), Waste-paper (Rs. 2,872), and Miscellaneous (Rs. 1,996). The total expenditure was Rs. 4,08,442, a decrease of Rs. 5,677 on the previous year's figures. The outturn of printing and binding work done for various Government departments fell from Rs. 6,92,858 to Rs. 6,90,561, a marked increase of Rs. 26,848 under the head "Revenue" due to a large demand for settlement forms being discounted by a great decline of Rs. 27,576 under the head "Public Works." A sum of Rs. 18,512 was disbursed to private firms as against Rs. 21,175 in the previous year. The cost of printing per page fell from Re. 1-5-5 to Re. 1-4-3. The number of publications received under the Registration Act was 2,029, of which 532 were reprints and 1,497 original works. The chief publishing centres were Allahabad (443), Lucknow (387), Benares (339), Aligarh (128), Cawnpore (123), Moradabad (115), Meerut (94), and Muttra (89). The price of paper increased by about 15 per cent. after the close of the year and should lead to a reduction in future indents.

REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION

OF THE

UNITED PROVINCES OF AGRA AND OUDH,

1916-1917.

ALLAHABAD:

PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS, UNITED PROVINCES,

1918.

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REPORT

ON THE

Administration of the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh,

1916-17.

PART I.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

Condition of the people.

1. SHARP as was the rebound in the previous year from scarcity conditions, there was still a margin for further advance, and the recovery was complete in all parts of the province, except in the least favoured districts of the west. In the western divisions, agriculture, which is the principal source of wealth of the provinces, suffered at the beginning of the year from shortage of rain and canal water, but Oudh and the southern and western divisions had an exceptionally good spring harvest. The monsoon of 1916 though more evenly distributed than that of 1915, was heavy; the crops at this season, with the exception of rice, were damaged by excessive rain, more particularly cane and cotton, and the yield on the whole was moderate. Floods caused considerable damage in the Ganges valley east of Allahabad. Measures of relief of rent and revenue were given in the areas affected. Prices eased off slightly from the high rates of the previous year, but not so as to deprive the cultivators of handsome profits, over crop areas that were, if anything, slightly above the normal. The autumn rainfall was favourable to an extension of sowings of the next spring crop, and on the whole the cultivating classes had a good year. The condition of agricultural labourers improved, but the educated classes, especially those with fixed incomes, were hit by the high prices of necessaries.

Trade.

2. Trade again increased, but did not reach its pre-scarcity volume in 1912-13: the expansion was most marked under exports, (mainly of agricultural produce, such as grain, sugar, and opium) which exceeded imports considerably. The war stimulated enormously the export of shellac, indigo, saltpetre, and hides but that of wheat declined by one-third. This was in the main the result of short sowings—the heavy and late rain of 1915 had hampered the preparation of the ground over one-tenth of the harvest area,—but was in part perhaps attributable also to the holding-up of stocks. Sugar, which ranks second to grain as a staple export, also declined, but to a smaller extent, the produce and area both having been affected by unfavourable seasons in the principal cane districts. The indigo area was trebled, but dull markets in Calcutta deprived the manufacturers of the large profits expected, and the prices paid to the cultivators were not high. The cotton crop was a failure all over India, and in these provinces the failure hit the cultivators and factories alike. The latter were compelled, in fact, to reduce their output. In other industries, while the supply of raw material was adequate, inability to import machinery and plant was a serious handicap; sugar and oil mills and engineering work were the chief sufferers. In this respect the war has undoubtedly emphasized the dangers of too great a dependence on imports from foreign countries. The Cawnpore textile mills and tanneries were largely occupied in the execution of military orders and had a prosperous year, particularly the latter.

3. Under imports the most notable increases were in coal for industrial purposes at Cawnpore and elsewhere, wool for war orders at Cawnpore. and brass for utensils for the general population, now recovering from the effects of the 1913-14 scarcity ; but against this has to be set a considerable decline in the volume of sea-borne imports such as iron, other metals, and cloth. With reduced supplies the prices of these articles naturally rose ; and in the case of cloth the rise has undoubtedly been a source of some hardship to the poorer classes. In some minor directions supplies were made good from America and Japan and to a lesser extent Australia. American motor cars and Japanese goods, such as matches, toys, sweets, beer, haberdashery, etc., were much in evidence. Government was also able to assist a few local industries, notably the manufacture of glass and bangle-making, and also such industries as fruit-packing and bottling, jam-making, and the manufacture of indigenous dyes to replace those of outside origin, the supply of which had been cut off. Of more permanent importance perhaps is the special enquiry initiated by the Agricultural department into the possibility of manufacturing morphia from Indian opium. Asia Minor has hitherto been the source of supply for this article but if the experiments now in progress are successful, the province will have secured a very valuable industry.

Effect of war on population.

4. With the data now available it is possible to affirm that the war had considerably less effect on the prosperity of the general population than the scarcity immediately preceding it. Beyond the short supply of metals, cloth, and other sea-borne commodities, and to a certain extent the high prices of food, the general public has felt the influence of the great European conflict but slightly. Some disorganization was inevitable on the outbreak of the war, but that stage is now past : the people have now settled down to their usual occupations and have adapted themselves to whatever changes have occurred. Had there been no scarcity in 1913-14 the war as an economic factor would have attracted less attention than it has done in previous years.

Contributions towards the war.

5. Apart from its economic aspect, the war has evoked a general spirit of loyalty to the empire throughout the province. Including combatants and non-combatants, its contributions in men amounted to double the number already in military service, and the improved arrangements since inaugurated have shown that, though before the war a minor recruiting area, it is prepared to furnish quotas of recruits far in excess of what a few years ago would have seemed possible. A large sum was subscribed by the public to the United Provinces War Fund, in addition to minor aid to the Imperial Indian War Relief, Red Cross, and other funds. The three native states supplied Imperial Service troops and other detachments, and a military hospital. There was no internal disorder arising out of the war and no prosecution for sedition, and the machinations of extremists from Bengal and elsewhere were successfully countered.

Home Rule propaganda.

6. Amongst the educated classes interest centred chiefly round the possibility of a further extension of self-government, and the discussions on internal politics overshadowed and diminished concern in the war. In the press the Home Rule propaganda of Mrs. Besant, the memorandum of post-war reforms drawn up by the nineteen members of the Supreme Legislative Council, and the Congress and Muslim League joint programme were the chief topics. Political agitation, however, was generally restrained and repressive measures were few. The conservative Muslim organs advocated a

policy of "nationalism" under the British flag, and practically all sections looked to the British Government for their future advancement.

Provincial finance.

7. The budget of 1916-17 was, like its predecessors, a war budget, which aimed deliberately at retrenchments and economies all round. Expanding departments were compelled to maintain the *status quo* and numerous reforms, some of considerable urgency, were postponed. For reasons, however, which it was impossible to foresee at the time of its preparation, the forecasts on which it was based proved to have been unduly pessimistic. The budget had estimated for a slight excess of expenditure over income but in fact the balance in hand at the close of the year was nearly ten times the prescribed minimum. One quarter of this balance included sums ear-marked for education, sanitation, and general administration, which will be spent in due course. One-tenth is accounted for by unexpected additions to the opening balance brought over from the preceding year. There were also, however, considerable additions to income and savings that could not be foreseen at the time of preparing the estimates. The receipt side benefited considerably from the continued growth of the prosperity of the people in spite of war conditions, as is evident from the increased revenue under excise, and to a less extent under stamps and income-tax. The forests for reasons explained below produced an unprecedented income, and the strong demand for and full supply of water augmented the income from canals. The savings on the expenditure side too, were considerable, though short of the unexpected increases in receipts. In actual practice, it was found possible in nearly all departments to carry economy farther than the budget had anticipated. There was, naturally, no expenditure on famine relief, and the grant for that purpose remained in hand. Moreover, Government was hampered, equally with the public, by scarcity of iron-work, machinery, and engineering plant generally.

8. The financial position of municipal and district boards also improved; expenditure rose a little, though the balance in hand did not decrease.

Depletion of staff.

9. Depletion of staff was felt by all departments of Government, but most of all by the Medical and Jail departments. In the latter departments the higher personnel is drawn from the Indian Medical Service and three-fourths of the Indian Medical Service officers were on military duty. Their places were filled by the appointment of private practitioners and pensioners, and similar steps were taken in some other departments. Some decline in efficiency was inevitable in such conditions, but it was less than might well have been anticipated. For this result we are indebted to the spirit in which the services have responded to the increased demands made upon them. The war has added in many ways to the burdens on all ranks; for the higher ranks it has meant heavier responsibilities, new problems to be faced, and curtailment of leave in a climate which requires periodical relief from labour; for the lower it has meant a reduction in the real value of salaries at no time excessive. Both have responded cheerfully to the call.

Revenue and civil litigation.

10. One of the chief features of the year was the growth in the volume of litigation in the revenue and civil courts. In part the explanation is to be found in the renewed prosperity of the province; but as regards the revenue courts at least it would be unwise to assign too great an importance to this factor. Other and more deeply-seated causes are clearly here at work.

The expansion is undoubtedly connected with the growing pressure of the population on the soil, and with the rise in prices which has been practically continuous since 1904. The new Tenancy Bill which is at present on the anvil, aims at mitigating the effects of these conditions. The rise in civil court litigation which has been more or less continuous for a considerable period is largely attributable no doubt to the growing wealth of the provinces, but here too other causes are probably in operation. Amongst these, we may conjecture, are the movement towards individualism, the increasingly commercial character of relations between individuals and classes, and the advance in industrialization.

Excise.

11. The economic recovery of the province is reflected also in the record revenue under the head of excise, a result which has been attained by raising duties rather than consumption. Except under one source of revenue, consumption was not the highest recorded. While public opinion is not ripe for prohibition and facilities for illicit manufacture abound, the policy of Government is to control consumption and to supply a sound article for the moderate consumer. Progress in this direction was effected by curtailing shops and removing them from prominent positions, and the experimental introduction of the surcharge-fee system in lieu of the competitive right of vend of spirit may open another road for a similar advance.

Police.

12. The volume of crimes declined, especially under the head of offences against property. Unfortunately there was a further rise in the number of dacoities. The increase in this form of crime has been continuous since 1914 and constitutes a serious menace to the peace of the province. In itself the problem is far from being insoluble. A more efficient police force should be capable of handling dacoity effectively. But efficiency means better control and larger expenditure, and with a superior staff seriously depleted and in a period of forced economy these conditions have naturally not been fulfilled. Partial effect, indeed, was given to the scheme for improving the pay of constables, but the need for higher emoluments is not confined to the rank and file : it is no less urgent in the case of the gazetted ranks, and a very heavy expenditure will have to be incurred to secure the efficient and contented force which alone can guarantee the province against outbreaks of organized crime.

Canals and irrigation.

13. The dry cycle of years beginning with the 1896-7 famine had left the provinces with a legacy of protection from drought in the shape of wells, canals, and other works, and distress as wide as that, experienced in 1896-7 is perhaps no longer possible. With the recurrence indeed of wet seasons in the two past years, irrigation as a problem may give place to drainage. During the year the extension of the protective canals proceeded in Mirzapur and Bundelkhand, and there now remains for completion only one large project, the Sarda canal. Expenditure on the project has however had to be postponed during the war. There is every reason to suppose that it will prove a very profitable work, commanding areas where wells are difficult or unremunerative to construct.

Agriculture.

14. Agriculture is and will always be the great industry of the province. It is therefore gratifying to find that the landed classes are more and more realizing the advantages of developing the resources of the soil: not a few private gentlemen now maintain their own experimental farms, and others are sending their sons to the Agricultural College which up to a few years ago

had attracted only candidates for Government service. The educated classes of the towns too, who have hitherto not displayed much interest in agriculture, are beginning to appreciate its possibilities as a profession.

15. A better seed and water-supply is one of the most urgent of our immediate agricultural needs, and it was decided therefore to utilize for the purpose, the grant given by the Government of India from the proceeds of the wheat sales. Much attention has been devoted of late to improving the breeds of milch and plough cattle, and in this direction steady progress was made during the year. Efforts were also made to foster the breeding of horses and mules, the demand for which has been greatly stimulated by the war.

Co-operative societies.

16. Agriculture is likely to benefit greatly in the future by the growth of the co-operative movement. Members of the public interested in agriculture have begun to realize the possibilities of the societies in this matter, and have given the department much assistance. No attempt is being made at present however to add largely to the number of rural societies. The severe tests to which they have been subjected of late by the scarcity of 1913-14 and the rise in prices have shown that many of them were lacking in stability; and for the moment consolidation and not expansion is the aim of the department. Members have still to learn to identify their interests with those of the society: till this lesson has been thoroughly mastered progress must inevitably be slow. But the movement has come to stay; the confidence of the investing public is undiminished, as is evident from the fact that deposits have had to be refused; and further developments are simply a matter of time.

Forests.

17. The cessation of imports led to a great demand for the timber and turpentine of our forests. Large quantities of timber, sleepers, and tanstuffs, and materials for the extraction of acetone, acetic acid, and methyl alcohol were supplied to the military and ordnance departments. The war has undoubtedly emphasized the need for the fuller development and utilization of the province's forests. There is still a large margin for experimental work, exploitation, and the improvement of communications, and judicious expenditure on all these objects promises to be extremely remunerative. The outturn of turpentine has already been greatly increased, and is capable of further expansion; and the provinces ought and undoubtedly can be made largely independent of foreign imports of timber and certain other materials. It is even possible that they may become a supply centre, as regards some products, for the rest of India. The financial results this year have been extremely gratifying and the growing revenues of the department promise in future to yield a very substantial addition to provincial revenues.

Public health.

18. The health of the province was on the whole better than in the preceding year. The cholera prevention scheme, which was introduced as an experiment some years ago in 20 districts, broke down owing to the lack of disinfectants. It had given apparently good results in previous years, and there is at present no intention of abandoning it. Luckily the incidence of the disease was light. The mortality from plague also declined. It is sincerely to be hoped that our good fortune in this respect will continue, for the medical staffs have been so depleted that they are now barely sufficient for the ordinary needs of the administration. It would be quite impossible with the personnel now available to handle effectively any wide outbreaks, such as in the event of famine we may be faced with.

Medical Registration.

19. The Medical Registration Act introduced early in 1916, but passed just after the close of the year follows in the main the lines of the legislation previously initiated in other large provinces. In several respects, however, as was freely recognized at the time, it embodies large concessions to non-official opinion. The medical council which the Act sets up for the professional control of medical men, will have, as it will eventually be constituted, a considerable non-official majority, and the interests of the indigenous systems have been carefully safeguarded, more particularly in the matter of association between registered practitioners and *hakims* and *vaids*.

Municipalities.

20. In the sphere of administration the chief event of the year was undoubtedly the passing of the new Municipalities Act. This took effect from the 1st of July, 1916, and was thus in operation for nine months of the period under review. Its principal feature was the abolition of official chairmen, and direct official control. Central control has been retained; in this respect the Act merely follows the practice of all modern states; but in future the municipalities will enjoy a measure of autonomy at least as liberal as that permitted to urban authorities in any other country. Provision was made at the same time for certain internal reforms which experience had shown to be essential. Plurality of control is not conducive to efficient administration, and boards and committees are not capable of handling successfully the details of executive work. The new Act accordingly reserves to Government the power to insist on the appointment by the boards of the larger municipalities of an executive officer, who will work under the control of the chairman. In the smaller municipalities the chairman can be his own executive officer, but the appointment of separate officers for this purpose is permissible, and several boards have already of their own accord made such appointments. The boards will still retain in their own hands the powers of legislation and general control, but they will be freed from a mass of details, and can devote themselves to matters of broad policy. On the whole the new Act was a popular measure. There were difficulties at the time of its passing on the subject of communal representation, and in some of the boards Hindu candidates either did not stand for election or resigned after election on the ground that they were dissatisfied with the constitutions proposed for their boards. The method adopted for securing the due representation of Muhammadans was the result of a compromise. The proportion of Muslim members was fixed on the basis of population, subject to certain additions where it fell below a certain figure. Devices of this kind are always open to criticism, but in the circumstances compromise was inevitable, and there seems now to be a general disposition to acquiesce in the *fait accompli*. The new constitution has been in force for too short a period to allow of any definite conclusion being framed, but it is hoped that the wide powers granted will evoke in the electorate and its representatives a corresponding sense of responsibility, and that the public will recognize that their interests will best be served by voting for men who will work for the common good.

Education

21. The district boards were engaged throughout the year in carrying out schemes designed to give effect to the orders issued in 1914 on the subject of primary education. The main features of these schemes are the provision so far as practicable of a school within three miles of every village, the adoption of the upper primary course as the minimum standard of elementary education,

more adequate staffs of teachers, the lengthening of the Middle Vernacular course, a revised curriculum, and a strengthened inspectorate. The last reform has had to be postponed for want of funds, and many districts suffer from a lack of qualified teachers. The schemes nevertheless mark a great advance. Many thousand new teachers are being added, and in general the foundations of a sound system of elementary education have now been laid. In female education the outlook is less hopeful. As has been repeatedly pointed out, real and sustained progress is impossible without a change in the attitude of the people. The indifference, apathy, and even hostility of the general public have hitherto largely nullified all our efforts. The history of the schools maintained by the local bodies is mainly a record of wasted expenditure. Somewhat better results have been achieved by the secondary Anglo-Vernacular schools, but even here the results are disappointing. It has not hitherto been the practice for Government to start such schools of its own, and there is much to be urged in favour of leaving this branch of education to private effort liberally subsidized by State funds. But the logic of events has forced a reconsideration of the traditional policy in this matter. Such demand as there is for female education is to be found amongst the educated middle classes: the aided schools have not so far catered satisfactorily for this demand, and a Government institution with the larger resources of the State behind it might prove the starting-point of a fresh and notable advance. In the budget debate, in March, 1917, the Government accordingly announced its intention of establishing in Lucknow a high class Anglo-Vernacular boarding school for girls. The expenditure will be very considerable, but the experiment will at least furnish a test and a measure of the extent and sincerity of the demand for female education.

22. There is no subject on which complaints in the press and on the public platform have been more frequent than the supposed inadequacy of the accommodation in our high schools. In the case of Government schools very large sums have been spent of late years on the construction of new, and the extension of the existing buildings; and liberal subventions for similar purposes had been made to aided institutions. Nevertheless it has been continually alleged that annually crowds of students are refused admission and Government has been urged to open more schools, or in the alternative to lower its standard for admission. The report of the Committee appointed in March, 1916, to examine and report on the question was received towards the end of the year. The statistics attached to that document show clearly that the supposed shortage has, to say the least, been enormously exaggerated. Such congestion as exists is purely local. The widespread impression to the contrary is merely the result of the popularity of certain schools which attract larger number of applicants than can secure admission. The Committee's figures have not carried conviction in all quarters but arrangements have now been made to apply a definite statistical test which should set all doubts on the matter at rest.

PART II.

DEPARTMENTAL CHAPTERS.

CHAPTER I.—PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

1—Physical features, area, climate, and chief staples.

(See pages 1 to 6 of the report for 1911-12.)

2—Political.

(For details see the annual reports on the administration of the Rampur, Tehri, and Benares States.)

RAMPUR.

Revenue Administration.

1. The financial position of the State continued to improve, the balance in hand rising from 12 lakhs at the beginning of the year to 20 lakhs at its close. The land revenue demand was 40 lakhs, inclusive of 7·6 lakhs arrears which were reduced to 6·6 lakhs. Under all heads the demand was 58 lakhs, including 8·8 lakhs arrears, which fell to 7·9 lakhs at the end of the year.

General.

2. The Rampur Imperial Service Infantry has been on active service from the commencement of the war and His Highness has sanctioned a rise of pay in addition to pensions to invalided men or the families of casualties. He has also placed at the disposal of Government his houses in Naini Tal and Bareilly for the accommodation of wounded and convalescent officers and men. A war loan meeting was held at which His Highness' promise to subscribe two lakhs and other contributions were announced.

Agriculture.

3. The monsoon rainfall of 1915 was above the normal and the *kharif* was good, but the continuance of rain into October curtailed the *rabi* sowings and the outturn was affected by the absence of the winter rains and to some extent by frost. Agricultural conditions were however somewhat more satisfactory than in the previous year.

General condition of the people.

4. Notwithstanding the poor *rabi* crop there was a recovery in prosperity from the famine period of two years ago, as is evidenced by the increased consumption of country spirit and the reflux of tenants.

Excise.

5. The consumption of country spirit rose by 33 per cent., viz., from 21,967 to 29,573 gallons. There was a slight increase in the opium consumption and a decrease from 33 to 29 maunds in the case of *charas*, but as regards the latter, the figure of last year was abnormal. The total demand including Rs. 13,000 arrears, was Rs. 1,67,320, out of which Rs. 10,300 remained uncollected.

Police.

6. The volume of crime remained stationary in spite of a continuation of the campaign under section 110, Criminal Procedure Code. There was a satisfactory decrease in cattle-theft, but burglaries increased. The introduction of a Criminal Tribes Act may have a salutary influence.

Medical.

7. There was a satisfactory recovery in the public health as shown by the rise in births from 7,650 to 9,259 and a fall in deaths from 16,065 to 9,972. No epidemic occurred.

Education.

8. The number of scholars again fell from 4,950 to 4,734, and the number of schools from 129 to 123. Seven out of 16 candidates passed the university matriculation examination, and 20 out of 25 passed various examinations in the Punjab University. The State provides free education for the public. Scholarships and books, also, are given to indigent and deserving students.

TEHRI.

9. Mr. F. C. Chamier, I.C.S., whose untimely death occurred at the beginning of the year, was succeeded in the Presidency of the Council of Regency by Mr. G. B. F. Muir, I.C.S., guardian to His Highness the Raja Sahib. Mr. Muir's place was taken by Mr. D. H. C. Drake, I.C.S. The ordinary income of the State was 8·1 lakhs, a slight increase on last year's figure, in addition to which 1·12 lakhs accrued from *nazrana* at His Highness' marriage, and from repayment of debts. Expenditure, including 1·3 lakhs extraordinary expenses, exceeded ordinary income by ·4 lakh. The year was one of agricultural prosperity, although prices and wages continued to rise. The health of the people was good and there was no epidemic. Work on the land settlement continued and the account system is being overhauled. Working-plans for the forests are in hand. Enrolment of scholars in the schools was stationary; four new schools however were started. Recruiting to replace casualties in the Garhwal Imperial Service Sappers continues, and has been taken up for the 39th Garhwal Rifles and the Benares Labour Corps. Various contriburions to war funds were made, and one lakh and a half were invested in the war loan by Her Highness, in addition to subscriptions by the public.

BENARES STATE.

10. The total receipts of the State were 20·3 lakhs, as compared with 19·5 lakhs in the previous year. The receipts included three lakhs borrowed for financing irrigation schemes. Expenditure totalled 20·5 lakhs, the balance being reduced from 1·12 to ·88 lakhs. The largest item was 3·24 lakhs on irrigation, chiefly for the Karamnasa Canal in Chakia. One of the two main branches is working; had it not been for unforeseen causes, involving delay and expense, the project would have been finished. The total estimate is for 10 lakhs, and the area to be irrigated 38,000 acres. Canal rates were imposed, but were not collected. Besides this useful addition to the income the canal will be a sound investment, and a preventive of famine. Settlement operations in Bhadohi were successfully terminated, resulting in an addition of 1·3 lakhs yearly, obtained by a like expenditure. The season on the whole was favourable for agriculture, except for a loss of *kharif* crops on the low-lying land by the Ganges, which were inundated in August. Fortunately there was no loss of life. The heavy rain diminished generally the outturn of millets. Prices though high were lower than in the year before. Plague continued in Bhadohi, and there was some small-pox and cholera. Police work improved and crime diminished. Good use was made of the preventive sections of the Criminal Procedure Code, supplemented by the new Criminal Tribes Act, the introduction of which thus brings the State into line with the neighbouring British districts. The Lovett High School was opened in November, 1915. The number of vernacular schools increased from 69 to 73, and the number of scholars from 6,113 to 6,414. Female education continues to be unpopular. There was a fairly large expenditure on buildings, including that on adapting the Mint House in Benares to the requirements of a military hospital. The Lady Chelmsford hospital, as it now is, has 150 beds for sick and wounded soldiers and is financed by the State. A motor launch and other contributions were made to the war. The first section of the Ambulance Transport Corps furnished by the State has gone to the front, and the second section is ready and will start when orders are received.

3—Historical summary.

4—Form of administration.

5—Character of land tenure, and system of survey and settlement.

6—Civil divisions of British territory.

7—Details of last census, tribes, and language.

(For sections 3 to 7 see pages 8 to 41 of the report for the year 1911-12.)

8—Changes in Administration.

11. The Hon'ble Sir James Scorgie Meston, K.C.S.I., held charge of the provinces throughout the year except for the period of his deputation to England as a member of the Imperial War Council from February the 7th to June the 2nd, 1917, during which the Hon'ble Mr. John Mitchell Holms C.S.I., officiated as Lieutenant-Governor.

9—Relations with tributary states and frontier affairs.

12. The boundary between the Pilibhit district and Nepal was fixed in February, 1916, and the proposals were sent to the Darbar for ratification. The settlement of an irrigation dispute on the boundary between Nepal and the Basti district was in progress.

10—Condition of the people.

(For details see the annual report on the revenue administration by the Board of Revenue for the year ending 30th September, 1916.)

Season and crops.

13. Sharp as had been the reaction from scarcity conditions in the previous year, there was still a margin for further improvement, and in most parts of the province the recovery was complete. In the least-favoured tracts of the west the pockets of the peasantry, however, were still comparatively empty. The *rabi* crop in the Agra division and part of the Meerut division was a poor one, both in area and outturn. The 1915 monsoon ended sooner than elsewhere; October was a hot month, and sowings were restricted. Drought continued from October to the middle of February, when the general rain that fell over the provinces was too late to benefit the crop. Moreover there was shortage of rain in the Kumaun division, which, besides causing local losses of crops, curtailed the canal-supplies in Meerut and Agra. For the province as a whole the *rabi* area was 5 per cent. above normal, and the outturn was good, being poor in Agra, Muttra, Aligarh, Bulandshahr, Dehra Dun, and Garhwal, moderate in Rohilkhand, and excellent elsewhere. Gram was a particularly good crop, both as regards area and produce. The wheat area was 10 per cent. below normal, and was partially replaced by barley, the reason being that the heavy and late rain of the monsoon had made preparation of the ground difficult. The shortage of canal-water continued to the time of the sowings of the hot weather crops. The monsoon of 1916 was abundant and well distributed, and there was less flooding than in the previous year. The Ganges valley east of Allahabad was inundated, but serious damage was restricted to one tahsil in Ballia. *Kharif* sowings were 3 per cent. above normal. Rice was sown over a large area and the outturn was good, but the continuous rain was not beneficial to maize, millets, cotton and cane, particularly the last two. The outturn was on the whole moderate. The indigo area increased from 43,248 to 158,621 acres: though the yield was good the cultivators did not receive very high prices. The area of cotton was normal though below its pre-war figure. Cane, too, was disappointing, particularly in Rohilkhand, where the area was below normal. The extension of rain into October repeated the conditions of the previous year, and the wheat area did not rise appreciably. However the increase in *rabi*-sowings amounted to 9 per cent. above normal, and prospects were good throughout the province at the end of the year. Relief in rent and revenue and in the shape of *takavi* advances was given in the areas affected by drought and flood.

Prices, trade, and health.

14. Prices eased off a little from the high rates prevailing in the previous year, but the fall was slight, and the cultivators on the whole had a good year. Wheat stood in January at 7·75 sers to the rupee, and barley

at 10·75. Their prices fell by December to 8·5 and 12·62 sers save for a fall at harvest time in May to 10 and 13·12 sers respectively. Agricultural labourers benefited by higher wages, and showed a readiness to leave the villages for the towns to secure higher remuneration. The external trade of the provinces for the year ending 31st March, 1917, showed an advance in value of 9 per cent. though it did not touch the pre-war figure of 1912-13. The net exports were 5 crores principally under the heads of grain, sugar, opium, and other agricultural products. The war stimulated the outturn of saltpetre, shellac, and indigo. Indigo did not come up to expectations, as the Calcutta market was dull, but the Mirazpur lac factories made a good profit. Sugar and wheat exports declined as the result of contracted area in the latter, and poor produce in the former. The hide trade recovered from the depression of the year before owing to the re-opening of shipments to Europe. The strong demand from Calcutta for fibre brought profits to hemp-growers in the eastern districts. There was a large import of coal for the factories at Cawnpore and other industrial centres, but a decline in cloth and metals, chiefly iron goods, except brass. The decline was due to contraction of sea imports, and the increase in brass reflected agricultural prosperity and the demand for brass utensils. Dealers in cloth and metals, who had stocks, benefited by the rising prices. The Cawnpore tanneries and wool textile industry had a prosperous year, being occupied chiefly with supplying military requirements, but the scarcity of raw material and machinery reduced the output of cotton goods, while ginning factories worked half-time. Japanese goods, such as matches, toys, motor-tyres, sweets, beer, haberdashery, etc., were observed in the markets. The general health of the people improved and mortality decreased, chiefly owing to a large decrease in deaths from cholera. Plague declined slightly. Parts of Rohilkhand suffered from an epidemic of relapsing fever, and the wet weather of the year generally favoured the increase of malaria and respiratory diseases. The health in towns improved.

CHAPTER II.—ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

11—Realization of the land revenue.

(For details see the annual report on the revenue administration of the Board of Revenue for the year ending 30th September, 1916.)

Total demand and collections.

15. Out of the total demand of 946 lakhs on account of land revenue, cesses, and rates, 3 lakhs were remitted and 30 remained in balance, or ·3 per cent. only. The balance includes 5¾ lakhs of land revenue and 11 lakhs of *takavi* that were suspended, as well as 6 lakhs of unsuspended arrears of *takavi* due under Act XII.

Land Revenue.

16. Out of a current demand of 653 lakhs, 646 were collected. Of the balance of 7 lakhs, one was nominal owing to reductions in the demand, and the remainder was nearly all suspended or postponed on account of drought, chiefly in the Muttra, Aligarh, Meerut, and Bulandshahr districts. The arrear demand had been reduced in the previous year from 46 to 4·5 lakhs, of which 1·33 was remitted, and most of the remainder was covered by suspensions and postponements, chiefly in the Muttra district. Thus collections were practically cent. per cent., only Rs. 13,584 or ·02 per cent. remaining, after deducting remissions, suspensions, etc.

Rates.

17. The drought in the western divisions made a call for canal water and raised the demand for occupiers' rates to 98·4 lakhs, or 1·1 lakh above the high figure of 1913-14. There was unfortunately a shortage of water, complaints being received from seven of the Doab districts, but for which the figure might have been still higher. In the more favoured divisions of Allahabad and Bundelkhand there was less irrigation. Collections were everywhere practically full except in the Muttra district; the arrears there totalled as much as 1·7 lakhs, as compared with Rs. 11,946 elsewhere. The arrear demand rose from 1·2 to 1·8 lakhs at the close of the year.

Owners' rates fell by Rs. 34,123, owing chiefly to absorption into land revenue at settlement. Excluding suspensions and remissions the total realizable demand of Rs. 1,15,838 was fully collected except for Rs. 8,200 mostly in the Muttra district.

Advances.

18. Advances for seasonal expenditure under Act XII reached the normal sum of 20·84 lakhs, and for permanent improvements under Act XIX fell by one-half to 6·47 lakhs. But for the drought in the western districts the figures would have been much lower. The decline in advances for wells and other improvements was dictated by the need for economy in war time, while the demand for improved means of irrigation fell as a natural consequence of wet seasons in most parts of the province. In general, advances were curtailed to the limit necessary to carry through works already in progress to the exclusion of new projects. During the year 4,112 new masonry wells were completed from advances previously given, 344 repaired, and 5,017 were in progress; 148 embankments and 41 tanks were completed, in addition to 150 embankments and 8 tanks in course of construction. In Bulandshahr nine pumping plants costing Rs. 15,450 were completed, and others are in process of erection in Etah and Aligarh, while advances were given for one tube well in Muttra and one in Meerut. But for the war greater progress in mechanical appliances might have been recorded. In all, 4 lakhs were advanced in the Meerut and Agra divisions, but elsewhere the amounts declined to 2½ lakhs. Of the seasonal advances, one-half went to the distressed Agra and Meerut divisions, and the bulk of the remainder to Oudh for seed to replace the crops washed away by the floods. Bundelkhand took one lakh only as against eleven in the previous year.

Under Act XII after deducting postponements and suspensions amounting to 9·51 lakhs there were 63·98 lakhs due for collection, of which 90 per cent. was realised as in the previous year, and the balance of 6 lakhs is estimated to be recoverable in the ordinary course. Under Act XIX the net demand was 19·59 lakhs of which 85 per cent. was realized. 3·44 lakhs were overdue in three districts affected by drought, and will probably come under formal suspension. Three lakhs were outstanding on account of aided works, of which 1·16 were due for collection. Of this 85 per cent. was realized.

Coercive processes.

19. The total number of coercive processes remained practically at last year's high figure, and for the same causes, such as the large number of petty advances to be recovered, and general shortage of cash in areas affected by bad seasons.

12—Settlements.

20. The settlement of the Kashipur tahsil in the Naini Tal district was completed, as also that of Allahabad except for a certain amount of case work. The assessments in Fatehpur and Etawah which were finished in the preceding year, were confirmed. The Gorakhpur and Basti settlements continued to progress satisfactorily. In the former district the area was divided between two settlement officers: revision of records was practically completed in five tahsils out of six, and assessment was well advanced in three. In Basti revision of records was completed in three out of four tahsils, and assessments were in progress in one. Two new districts were taken up, Bulandshahr, where revision of records and attestation began, and Saharanpur, where preliminary work was started. In Bundelkhand eight parganas came under periodical assessment under the special procedure applying there, the assessment resulting in a five per cent. increase on 6·66 lakhs. The Settlement Commissioner continued to supervise operations and to decide appeals.

Case work.

21. Including 3,950 cases pending from the previous year there were 43,413 cases for disposal, and of these 19,660 remained undecided at the end of the year. Most of the litigation took place in Gorakhpur and Basti, and there was also a fair proportion in Bulandshahr. There were few appeals.

Cost of settlement operations.

22. The expenditure during the year in the five districts under settlement amounted to Rs. 3,19,450.

13—Land Records.

Establishment. 23. Assistants to sadr kanungos were transferred to the district staff in connection with the general revision of establishment under Mr. Pike's scheme.

Patwaris. 24. Fourteen patwaris were appointed as permanent assistant registrar kanungos, and eleven as partition amins, while others officiated in various posts. There was a further rise from 95·7 to 96 in the provincial percentage of patwaris holding the patwari school certificate. Exemptions fell from 1·3 to 1·1, while the proportion of unpassed incumbents remained stationary. The experiment of granting scholarships to residents in the hilly tracts of Mirzapur and Allahabad, and the opening of a school in the latter district did not prove successful in attracting suitable men. However a similar experiment in the Kumaun hills inaugurated this year promises a better result. The number of resident patwaris fell from 83·5 to 82 per cent., the reason being the exclusion of the patwaris of Fatehpur and Gorakhpur from last year's returns.

Kanungos. 25. One sadar kanungo was approved for tahsildarship, and one was appointed as naib tahsildar. Three supervisor kanungos were appointed as sadr kanungos, six were selected as approved candidates for naib-tahsildarship, and one was permanently appointed as such. Thirty-three supervisors officiated as naib-tahsildars, one as an assistant survey expert, seven as *takavi* naib-tahsildars, and two were appointed in the court of wards.

Revision of circles. 26. Patwaris' circles were revised in Etawah and Fatehpur after settlement. There were other small changes.

Testing of papers. 27. Supervisor kanungos worked up to the standard, except in Basti where there was a slight shortage owing to settlement, and in Allahabad, Kheri and Gonda. The tests of superior officers improved, but was below the average in Bareilly and Budaun, owing to the large number of circles inspected in the preceding year and few remaining for inspection in the current year. Also in Muttra work suffered from the fact that officers were busy with scarcity, and in Bulandshahr, where settlement work interfered. The tests of tahsildars and naib-tahsildars continued to improve. The state of the records in Basti and Gorakhpur, which have for sometime enjoyed an evil reputation in spite of efforts to reform them attracted attention, now that settlement operations have started therein.

Maps, records, and boundary marks. 28. Revision of records and map correction in the districts coming under settlement were taken in hand. Generally maps were found to be in good condition. The fixation of boundary marks in alluvial areas in Ballia again progressed slowly, while the work in Gonda approached completion.

Concealment of rents. 29. Seven districts reported concealment of rent. Large concealments were detected in Basti, and Kheri, Partabgarh and Bara Banki reported the practice of nazrana on the renewal of leases, in some cases amounting to one-third the value of the land, so that the existing record of rent is not a reliable index of the letting value, and worthless for future assessment purposes.

14—Waste lands.

30. There is nothing of importance to record.

15—Government estates.

(For details as regards minor estates and Dudhi, see the annual report on the revenue adminstration by the Board of Revenue for the year ending 30th September, 1916, and for the Government estates in the Kumaun division see the separate reports for the year ending 31st March, 1917.)

Minor estates. 31. Twelve new properties were acquired, and 53 were relinquished, leaving 563 under management. Of these 211 are in Bundelkhand, mostly under the Encumbered Estates Act, and 209 are in Oudh. The rental demand was increased to the extent of Rs. 7,000 by the inclusion of three villages previously treated as nazul, and the total demand rose by Rs. 13,229 to four lakhs, of which 90 per cent. was collected. Of the balance of ten per cent. nine was postponed or suspended, chiefly in Allahabad, as the result of drought.

32. The Dudhi estate benefited by good rains and a brisk trade in lac, so that the management for the second time in the history of the estate achieved cent. per cent. collections under all heads. Expenditure was intentionally curtailed by the postponement of original works of improvement and otherwise, only Rs. 13,258 out of a budget allotment of Rs. 26,012 being utilised. The 17 estate schools showed a slightly decreased enrolment, the three aboriginals now being trained in the school will, it is hoped, supply the lack of trained teachers, which hitherto has been a difficulty. The work of the dispensary improved, and the Wyndhamganj market flourished. **Dudhi.**

33. The rainfall in the Tarai and Bhabar was sufficient and well distributed. The result of the year's working gave the substantial surplus of Rs. 3,02,166, which, with Rs. 66,660 land revenue, made the total credited to Government Rs. 3,68,826, as compared with Rs. 3,47,731 in the preceding year. This figure is the highest on record. Gross receipts increased by Rs. 14,297, chiefly under the heads of public works and improvements. The cultivated area continued to expand. General health, however, deteriorated, as is evidenced by the decline of births from 4,692 to 4,033, and the rise in deaths from 8,420 to 8,519. Malaria and cholera prevailed, but quinine could not be distributed so extensively as before on account of its increased cost. Three travelling dispensaries were employed and an enquiry into the high mortality is in progress. **Tarai-Bhabar estates.**

34. The total demand for the year in the Garhwal-Bhabar estates was Rs. 31,660 as compared with Rs. 27,589 in the preceding year. Collections were cent. per cent. Gross receipts totalled Rs. 32,475 as against Rs. 26,525 in the previous year. The increase is due to unexpected increments in the rental demand and other heads, particularly mill rents and pounds. The total expenditure declined from Rs. 19,208 to Rs. 18,541, and would have been even less, but for repairs urgently needed on canals. The year was perhaps the most prosperous enjoyed by the estate. The rainfall was both timely and abundant in both harvests, and the area and outturn were both above normal. The tenants are now prosperous and have got rid of a great burden of debt. The year also was a healthy one, with a diminished death-rate. **Garhwal-Bhabar estates.**

16—Wards' estates.

(For details see the annual report on the operations of the Court of Wards for the year ending 30th September, 1916.)

35. During the year 200 estates were under the management of the Court of Wards, 17 estates with a rent-roll of 5·35 lakhs were released in the year, and four with a rent-roll of three lakhs were assumed. **Number of estates under the court.**

36. The most important estates taken over were Sahaspur-Bilari and Harchandpur with rent-rolls of 2·44 and ·39 lakhs respectively. Of the released estates the most important with their rent-rolls were as follows:—Raja Kali Charan's in Bareilly Rs. 32,600, Salkhan Rudauli Rs. 1,614, Singha Chanda Rs. 45,000, and Ramnagar Rs. 68,000. The debts of the released estates amounting to 52½ lakhs were paid off during the period of management. **Estates taken over or released.**

37. The gross receipts amounted to 134 lakhs as against 138 in the previous year or 156 lakhs including the opening balance of 22 lakhs. The main items of expenditure were Government revenue 49·3 lakhs, allowances and education of wards 24·2 lakhs, and repayment of debts 34·6 lakhs. Management charges absorbed 11 lakhs and works of improvement 8·3 lakhs. Only 4 lakhs were invested or less than one-half of last year's figure, but money had to be laid by in the larger estates for specific purposes. 2·37 lakhs were subscribed to war funds. The effect of the war made itself felt in a stringency of money, but fortunately there was no need to borrow large sums: difficulties arose, however, in selling land. **Financial.**

38. Collections of the current and arrear demands amounted to 115 and 4·8 lakhs, or 95 and 37 per cent. of the respective demands. Collection **Rent collections.**

was lowest in the Agra and Rohilkhand divisions, and to a slighter extent in Meerut, in all of which the *rabi* suffered from insufficient moisture. In some districts of Allahabad and Gorakhpur there were special reasons for low collections, apart from floods in Gorakhpur. There was no improvement in realising arrears.

Land revenue.

39. Payments on account of land revenue, cesses, and rates totalled 48·34 lakhs. Revenue was suspended or remitted to the extent of Rs. 7,973 in four districts affected by drought, Meerut, Bulandshahr, Aligarh and Muttra. These Government dues are roughly two-fifths of the rental demand, sayar income, and canal dues payable to the estates, or to be exact 39·4 per cent. of them, and as regards actual collections under these heads, 42·5 per cent. thereof.

Cost of management.

40. The total cost of management amounted to 11 lakhs, which, though slightly above the previous year's figure, came well within the ten per cent. standard. The actual percentage, thanks to improved collections, was 8·5 per cent. of the gross income as compared with 8·4 per cent. in the previous year.

Repayment of debts.

41. Payments towards liquidation of debts amounted to 34·6 lakhs, and debts including those of estates assumed or released in the year, were reduced from 181 to 166 lakhs.

Improvements.

42. Expenditure on improvements, which was in some ways restricted by war conditions, fell from 8·8 to 8·3 lakhs. The increased rainfall lessened the need for masonry well construction, and material for tube wells was not readily available. Besides the construction of wells attention was paid to the introduction of new varieties of crops and seeds, cattle-breeding, tree planting, and afforestation.

Sanitation and education.

43. From various causes the expenditure on medical relief fell from Rs. 56,000 to Rs. 34,000. Rupees 20,000 out of this expenditure were devoted to subscriptions to hospitals, Rs. 3,600 to vaccination, Rs. 4,300 to purchase of medicines, and Rs. 6,000 to dispensaries wholly maintained by the estates. It was found necessary in default of a qualified incumbent to close the travelling dispensary of the Tirwa estate. Rs. 11,000 were expended on village sanitation, principally in cleaning villages and improving their water supply. Expenditure on the education of the tenantry amounted to ·83 lakhs as compared with ·76 in the previous year. The number of schools remained stationary. In addition to the above sums, subscriptions amounting to Rs. 28,000 were paid to the proposed Hindu University, and Rs. 2,000 to another denominational institution.

Agricultural banks.

44. Depression and indebtedness continued as in the past two years to affect the Agricultural banks in the estates, as the result of the war and previous crop failures. The strain of unfavourable conditions has revealed weaknesses, and pointed out the necessity of weeding out inefficient societies. The policy of consolidation rather than expansion has been carried on. The central societies are doing good work in seed distribution.

Litigation.

45. Efforts were made to reduce tenancy litigation. Seventeen civil suits of over Rs. 10,000 value were all decided in favour of the court or were pending at the end of the year. Of the 29 appeals, six were won, one was withdrawn by the opposite party, and 22 were pending. The fact that no civil suit was lost is remarkable.

Accounts.

46. The accounts of 117 estates were audited and the result was on the whole satisfactory. Apart from audit three embezzlements were detected.

General.

47. The influence of the war on the administration is apparent in many ways, viz. in the curtailment of expenditure on improvements, in the subscriptions to war funds and in the growth of the area under indigo now a profitable crop. The Raja of Awah placed two of his houses in Naini Tal at the disposal of Government as homes for wounded or convalescent officers and undertook their management, and several estates made grants on account of military services.

The advisory committees continued to do good work.

17—Revenue and rent-paying classes.

(For details see the annual report on the revenue administration by the Board of Revenue for the year ending 30th September, 1916)

Tenancy litigation, Agra.

48. Litigation, which had risen by leaps and bounds (28 per cent.) in the previous year as the result of the landholders' efforts to recoup their losses in the 1913-14 scarcity, continued to rise still further (13 per cent.); as many as 462,986 cases after making allowances for holidays at the end of the year were instituted. It is clear that the main cause is the prosperity of the people and the growth of individualism, and that the 1913-14 scarcity only temporarily interrupted the steady rise.

Suits for arrears of rent and ejectment for arrears.

49. The largest increases were in suits for arrears of rent and for ejectment for arrears. In both the total was a record, viz., 226,983 and 62,253 respectively. The divisions showing the greatest increases were Meerut, Agra, and Allahabad. Ejectment was actually ordered in 11,796 cases, an increase of 22 per cent., and the areas from which occupancy and non-occupancy tenants were ejected, totalled 45,053 and 6,324, as against 39,581 and 4,976 acres in 1914-15.

Enhancement of rent.

50. Suits for enhancement amounted to 18,799, a record figure, and a further rise of 20 per cent. on the large rise of 44 per cent. in the previous year. Special circumstances, such as the completion of settlement in Etawah, Fatehpur, and Allahabad, and of the soil classification and rent extraction in Benares, were the chief contributory causes. Conversely institutions were restricted by settlement operations which were in progress in Gorakhpur, or about to begin in Saharanpur.

Relinquishments.

51. Relinquishments fell from 11,555 to 10,254. The decrease was due to improved agricultural conditions.

Ejectments other than for arrears.

52. The total number of ejectments other than for arrears was 119,791, as compared with the record figure of 122,867 in the previous year. The small difference is more than accounted for by a drop of 5,465 suits in Gorakhpur which is attributed to pre-occupation due to settlement. There was a rise all round, except in Rohilkhand, the reasons for which are being enquired into. Of the 123,256 suits disposed of during the year, ejectment was actually ordered in 94,803 in respect of 225,171 acres. Although there was an excess of 6,204 ejectments there was a decline of 17,841 acres in the area affected.

Protected area.

53. The gross area protected from arbitrary ejectment either by recorded occupancy rights, or by 12 years' continuous holding, or by long leases, again increased by 93,495 acres to 14,662,995 acres, continuing the unbroken rise since 1901-2, when this protected area was 12,531,022 acres. It is now over 70 per cent. of the total tenants' area, as compared with 64 per cent. then. In the same period the tenants' area on long leases has steadily increased from 3 to 9 lakhs of acres, but the yearly increase is lessening, and these leases are confined now chiefly to Court of Wards estates.

Rent litigation in Oudh.

54. Under the Oudh Rent Act the number of suits and applications increased from 93,860 to 96,351. The chief feature is a rise in applications for ejectment, totalling 28,341, the highest figure since 1895-6. This rise is explained partly by a desire of the landholders to take advantage of the improved agricultural position, and partly to a growing appetite on their part for nazrana brought about by increasing competition among tenants for land and the artificial restrictions of the law as to enhancing rent.

Rent Court work.

55. The year opened with a pending file of 128,673 suits and applications in Agra and 2,315 in Oudh. Adding the gross number of institutions the respective totals for disposal were 596,901 and 46,256. The balances awaiting decision at the end of the year were respectively 133,783 and 2,171. Notwithstanding the continuance of pressure in Agra the courts disposed of 8 per cent. more work than in the previous year, when the increase was 28 per cent. The number of applications for execution of decrees rose from 180,158 to 197,494, and the pending balance from 17,623 to 20,649. The increase was confined to Agra. Appeals to collectors under the Agra Tenancy Act rose by 4 per cent. to the record figure of 4,913, while in Oudh they fell by half, from 2,369 to 1,155. The explanation of the

latter figure is that the rush of resumption suits in Oudh was over. Appeals to commissioners decreased by 10 per cent. to 8,507, after a rise of 12 per cent. in the previous year. The decrease in Agra was only 3 per cent., but in Oudh 33 per cent., the latter decrease, too, being due to the drop in resumption cases. Appeals to judges fell off by 9 per cent. to 2,025, in spite of an increase in the number of appealable cases. The percentages of appeals in which the orders of the lower courts were wholly upheld by collectors, judges, and commissioners, were 63·54 and 66 respectively. There were 29 honorary assistant collectors who disposed of 31,097 cases, and thus aided considerably the paid staff of the districts where they were working. The standard of their work generally is favourably reported on.

Mutations in revenue papers.

56. There was a slight rise in the number of changes in the proprietary rights recorded, from 213,556 to 219,474, but it is conjectured that if the patwaris in Gorakhpur had not been busy in settlement the number would have been greater. Mutations of all kinds under orders of courts fell by 9 per cent., from 9,563 to 8,687, but if sale cases alone are taken, there was a rise of 4 per cent., from 3,506 to 3,668. Save for a temporary drop last year, this head has shown a continuous rise since 1909-10 in Agra, to which the present year's increment almost entirely belongs. The decrease in other cases is ascribed to erroneous procedure in Fyzabad. Mutations by succession or private transfer (other than by order of court) increased under the heads of succession by 5 per cent. to 109,468, of private sales by 6 per cent. to 32,272, and of mortgages by 8 per cent. to 28,828, while redemptions of mortgage fell by 11 per cent. to 15,590 and other cases by 3 per cent. to 19,201. Succession cases decreased in the divisions of light rainfall and improved healthiness, viz., Meerut and Agra, as well as in other parts of the Agra province, except Rohilkhand. In Oudh, where there was heavy rainfall and increased mortality, and in Rohilkhand increased mortality, the number of cases increased. In Gorakhpur the figures are incomplete, and no inference can be drawn. The real increase in private sales and mortgages occurred mostly in the Agra division, and was due to scarcity conditions, while apparent decreases elsewhere were due to variations in procedure.

Partition cases.

57. The balance of partition cases pending at the beginning of the year was 5,452. New applications numbered 3,862 or 9 per cent. above the previous year's figures, and the number of cases disposed of was 3,973 as against 4,335 or over 9 per cent. less than in the preceding year, but the pending file was reduced by 2 per cent. to 5,341. On the whole there was considerable improvement.

CHAPTER III.—PROTECTION.

18—Legislative Authority.

58. There are no changes to be recorded under this head.

19—Course of Legislation.

59. The following four Bills were dealt with during the year from 1st April, 1916, to 31st March, 1917:—

(1) The United Provinces Medical Bill, 1916.
(2) The Oudh Settled Estates Bill, 1916.
(3) The United Provinces Public Gambling (Amendment) Bill, 1916.
(4) The Oudh Courts (Amendment) Bill, 1917.

The first report of the select committee on the United Provinces Medical Bill, 1916, was presented on the 1st April, 1916. The Bill was recommitted to a select committee on the 19th July, 1916.

The Oudh Settled Estates Bill, 1916, was introduced into the Council on the 7th April, 1916, and was referred to a select committee on the 19th July, 1916. The report of the select committee was presented on the 13th March, 1917.

The United Provinces Public Gambling (Amendment) Bill, 1916, was introduced into the Council on the 7th April, 1916, and was referred to a select committee on the 19th July, 1916. The report of the select committee was presented and taken into consideration on the 11th November, 1916. The Bill was passed into law on the 11th November, 1916. It is now Act I of 1917.

The Oudh Courts (Amendment) Bill, 1916, was introduced into the Council on the 11th November, 1916, and was passed into law on the 29th January, 1917. It is now Act II of 1917.

20—Police.

(For details see the annual report on the administration of the Police department for the year ending 31st December, 1916, and the tables under the head "Police," in Part VI.—Statistics of British India.)

Crime Statistics.

60. With the return to prosperity crime declined by 8 per cent. and once more assumed a normal level with 164,038 cognizable cases, including those reported to magistrates. The only serious increase was under the head of dacoity, which however was suitably dealt with and the main gangs were broken up. No direct effect of the war as regards crime was observable, but it undoubtedly handicapped the administration in many ways. Several officers were deputed to military or political duty with a consequent disturbance and depletion of staff; recruitment for civil and armed police suffered; many long needed reforms had to be postponed for want of money. Prices were high and only a partial increase in the pay of the constabulary was possible. A substantial increase in the pay of the rank and file has recently been sanctioned but the force as a whole is still badly housed and the need for a better remuneration is not confined to the lower ranks. There are however some encouraging signs the public is slowly beginning to realize that the police are their only protection against evil-doers, and is inclining to trust them more, while some of the better class of Indian papers no longer practise indiscriminate vilification of the force. In this respect the work of the Indian Deputy Superintendents as well as their presence in the force has been of value. The unpopularity of the police reacts on the public in the attitude of the police to the public, but corruption and incompetence, which depress the keenest of officers are slowly giving way to the determination of Government to make police work clean, just, and efficient. Police reform, however, still remains the most urgent of the many that confront the administration.

Investigation.

61. The percentage of convictions to cases investigated improved from 38·5 to 40. It is too soon to say whether this represents a real recovery but the improvement, the first for some years, is at all events hopeful. The number of cases in which the police exercised their discretionary powers to refuse investigation again fell from 25·9 to 23·1 per cent. Most officers regard the decline with satisfaction. The matter, however, is chiefly important in connection with burglaries and here there is a wide variety of opinion as regards the utility of many investigations, and great variations in the practice of the different districts. It is clear, however, that the problems of burglary are different in town and rural areas and more likely to yield to treatment in the former.

Coin, stamps, and notes.

62. The number of true cases relating to coin, stamps, and notes fell from 89 to 78. Forty convictions were obtained in the 50 cases disposed of in the year.

Murder.

63. Excluding false cases and those in which murderers committed suicide, murders declined from 691 to 678, and the percentage of convictions fell from 69 to 66. Dacoits were responsible for some of the most brutal cases, but reckless taking of life was not confined to hardened criminals. The list includes every variety of motive, from adultery to witchcraft. In 20 cases of the murder of infants by their mothers the Local Government reduced the sentences to periods ranging from one year to six.

Poisoning.

64. Poisoning cases decreased from 68 to 54. The percentage of convictions was 77. Eight cases were attributed to professional poisoners,

including six committed by one man. The remainder were due to domestic causes or intrigue.

Dacoities.

65. Cases of dacoity, after a steady rise in recent years, again rose from 838 to 887. Firearms were used in 352 cases or about 40 per cent. and it is clear that cheap breech-loading guns are becoming a more frequent weapon of offence. Dacoities were most numerous in the western divisions of the Agra Province, and to a lesser degree in the Rohilkhand and Allahabad divisions. Explanations offered in previous years that the crime was chiefly due to wandering gangs or to criminals from native states are now discredited. As many as 693 cases out of 824 which could be classified were believed to be due to bad characters in British India, chiefly men belonging to these provinces. It is also now reported that in the main dacoities are not as they used to be, the work of large permanent gangs. Although, however, the idea of the gang may have been overdone, it would be a serious mistake to treat dacoities as isolated or unorganized crime. The most satisfactory feature of the year was the capture or killing of a number of leaders in the Meerut, Agra and Rohilkhand divisions. The percentage of convictions rose from 71 to 79, but unfortunately the necessity for deterrent sentences on professional dacoits was not realized by all the courts.

Robbery, burglary, and theft.

66. Robberies fell from 956 to 936, and convictions rose from 78 to 81 per cent. Robberies were most frequent in Meerut, Agra, Gorakhpur, Bulandshahr, Moradabad, Aligarh, Etah and Budaun. Burglaries decreased from 77,094 to 66,995, which is about the normal figure. Detection as usual was difficult, as only seven per cent. of the cases reported ended in conviction as against six in the previous year. As a rule few cases were worked out in which the offender was not identified or caught red-handed by the complainant or the neighbours. The efforts of the police were as usual concentrated on measures of a preventive nature such as surveillance, the use of the preventive sections, and patrolling. The best results were obtained in the towns, in particular Cawnpore city.

Cattle theft.

67. Cattle theft declined from 5,313 to 4,827 chiefly as the result of improvement in grazing facilities, and less opportunities for loss in consequence of long journeys to pastures. Cases were most numerous in the Agra, Meerut, and Rohilkhand divisions. It is to be hoped that the recruitment of Gujars in the army will have some effect on cattle theft in Meerut. Convictions fell from 23 to 22 per cent.

Criminal tribes.

68. During the year 21,912 persons were on the registers under the Criminal Tribes Act, of whom 18,786 were under special surveillance and 1,684 adults and 691 children were in the care of the Salvation Army. The Doms of Ballia and Jaunpur, and the Chain Chamars of Ballia were brought under the Act. Generally speaking the Act has yielded good results though it has entailed heavy work in surveillance. One new settlement was opened at Cawnpore, and those in existence continued to do good work. The most striking incident of the year was a determined raid by the Beriahs on the Rura settlement.

Surveillance.

69. The number of persons dealt with under the preventive sections decreased slightly to 6,885. Cawnpore, Benares, Meerut, Fyzabad, Moradabad, and Aligarh showed the greatest activity. The whole system of surveillance has recently been under revision and since the close of the year revised instructions have been issued.

Finger-print Bureau.

70. The Finger-print Bureau continued to work efficiently, in spite of the addition to their labour in connection with the registration of criminal tribes.

Absconded offenders.

71. Absconded offenders on the registers again increased, from 3,227 to 3,424, and there was the usual tendency to enter names too freely and to expunge too reluctantly.

Co-operation with Native States.

72. The relations with the police of the neighbouring Native States continued to be cordial everywhere.

Village headmen and chaukidars.

73. The number of village headmen continued to decrease from 100,673 to 99,462. The village headman still remains a figure-head of doubtful utility, and his position needs to be made more important.

74. There was no change in the cadre. Additional police were quartered in six districts. Rupees 1,05,000 were made available from heads outside the budget provision for increases in the pay of the constabulary. Desertions increased from 82 to 102, but resignations fell from 1,851 to 1,662 for the first time in five years. Recruiting to requirements was attained only by the expedient of lowering the standard, and some districts in particular experienced great difficulty in securing men. It is hoped that the substantial revision of pay recently sanctioned will make the police force attractive. The total cost of the police rose from 83½ lakhs to 90¼. **Strength and cost of the Police.**

75. Ten officers were dismissed including one superintendent, as compared with 20 in the previous year. In other punishments also there was a satisfactory decrease. **Punishments.**

76. Complaints again were received of increasing requisitions for the services of the Armed Police, particularly in some districts for the escort of military convoys to Bombay. Resignations continued to increase, and this branch of the service is undoubtedly unpopular. The mounted force, except as regards horses, which are now difficult to obtain, is in an efficient state. **Armed and mounted force.**

77. There was a slight decrease of crime in spite of heavy traffic. Investigations were satisfactorily numerous, and detection improved. One murder and ten dacoities were reported. Two grave cases of thefts from lady passengers were worked out successfully. **Railway Police.**

78. There was only one serious collision, and deaths and injuries from trains decreased. There were 32 attempts at derailment, but only a few were serious. In one instance the villagers cut the line to prevent flooding. **Railway accidents.**

79. Road chaukidars were abolished, and their absence was not noticed. The village chaukidars continued to do good work, when properly supervised, but in many districts rewards which fell from Rs. 32,362 to Rs. 28,418, were insufficient. **Rural police.**

80. Of 163 students at the Training School 156 appeared at the examination, and all but five passed. **Training school.**

81. The number of inquiries again fell from 147 to 116. Of 34 cases sent up for trial only two were acquitted. Three cases of bogus companies and two important note cases were successfully handled. Fraudulent prosecutions were dealt with, as also fraudulent civil suits, 12 of the latter ending in conviction. There was no prosecution for sedition. The special branch had a busy year, in the matters of the distribution of seditious leaflets in Benares, attempts to extend the operations of Bengali conspirators into these provinces, etc. Four newspapers were warned for violent writing, and one person was called on to furnish security for publishing a proscribed book. It may be that in some cases the objections taken to the extension of the activities of this branch or the methods of its subordinates are occasionally well founded; and these matters do not escape supervision. But impatient criticism which misrepresents the special branch as a needless and costly troubler of the public peace, can only proceed from ignorance of the dangers against which a capable intelligence department is the only safeguard. **Criminal Investigation department.**

82. Financial exigencies led to a sharp contraction of building operations. The total expenditure for buildings fell from Rs. 4,79,730 to Rs. 3,88,975. Two police stations, seven out posts, and 12 quarters and police buildings were built. The unusually heavy rains of the last monsoon did great damage to *kachcha* buildings all over the province. The police lines at Ballia were completely washed away by the Ganges flood. A re-survey of needs in the matter of buildings is in hand. **Buildings.**

21—Criminal Justice.

(For details see the annual reports on Criminal Justice for the year ending 31st December, 1916, and the tables under the head "Criminal Justice," in Part VI.—Statistics of British India.)

AGRA.

83. The total number of sessions divisions remained 18 throughout the year. Temporary additional judges were appointed in two districts. **General.**

Number of trials.

84. The total number of offences reported under the Penal Code, including those pending from the previous year, was 106,999, showing very little variation from last year's figure—106,881—but the number of persons under trial increased from 152,682 to 154,501, largely as the result of an increase in hurt cases. These cases increased from 25,758 to 26,326, and, as is well known, are frequently false or frivolous charges brought to redress a civil wrong. The increase therefore corresponds with the increase in civil litigation, and is due to the same causes, viz., the increasing pressure of population and a prosperous agricultural year, with the means to satisfy litigious instincts. The number of cases returned as true fell from 77,590 to 75,522. The number of persons concerned in offences under Chapter IX of the Indian Penal Code, that is to say, offences by or relating to public servants, was more than doubled, standing at 371 as against 179. Though there was a slight falling off in the number of offences coming under the head of contempt of lawful authority of public servants, (Chapter X of the Indian Penal Code) the number of persons concerned in such offences slightly exceeded the exceptionally high figure of the previous year. There was a considerable rise in the number of offences affecting the public health and safety. Theft cases fell off considerably from 12,139 to 11,101. Prosecutions for perjury were common as usual in Gorakhpur. The increase in the number of cases against the person was balanced by a decrease in offences against property. There were increases in prosecutions under the new Town Areas Act, the Workmen's Breach of Contract Act, and for prevention of cruelty to animals. The percentage of persons convicted to persons under trial fell from 44 to 43 in the courts of magistrates, and from 69 to 67 in the courts of session. With the rise of hurt and other complaint cases in the courts of Magistrates there was bound to be a decline, for the reason that it is difficult to throw out a complaint without hearing the accused, and the courts have little time to investigate perjury. Criminal litigation is so cheap, easy, and expeditious compared with that in the civil courts, that one obvious remedy would be to enhance the court fees, and possibly a simplification of the procedure in perjury would be helpful.

Duration of trials.

85. The average duration of trials was nine days in magisterial and 38 days in sessions courts, while the average for all courts remained as before at ten.

Punishments.

86. Death sentences fell from 97 to 80, and sentences of transportation from 340 to 264. Persons sentenced to rigorous imprisonment and to terms of imprisonment exceeding seven years were 19,327 and 190 respectively as compared with 20,203 and 155 in 1915. Whippings fell from 2,199 to 1,805.

Appeals and revisions.

87. The number of appellants fell from 20,083 to 18,684, while the number of applicants for revision rose from 4,114 to 4,328. In 8,012 cases the appeal or application was rejected, in 9,900 the lower court's order was confirmed, and in 70 the sentence was enhanced. Proceedings were quashed in 413 cases, while 801 were remanded for a fresh trial. The percentage of totally unsuccessful appellants and applicants for revision rose from 74 to 76.

OUDH.

Number of trials.

88. The total number of offences reported during the year rose by 1·3 per cent., those returned as true by 1·1 per cent., and those brought to trial by 1·5 per cent. The chief increases related to offences affecting the public health, criminal breach of trust, and offences relating to marriage, and the chief decreases to offences affecting life, hurt, theft, criminal trespass, defamation, and criminal intimidation, insult and annoyance. The number of accused under trial increased from 90,960 to 92,213. The percentage of convictions remained at 34.

Duration of trials.

89. The average duration of trials was 9·46 days in magisterial and 33·67 days in sessions courts, as against 9·27 and 33·07 days in 1915.

Punishments.

90. Fifty-five persons were sentenced to capital punishment as against 41 in 1915; sentences of transportation fell considerably from 176 to 70. The number of persons sentenced to rigorous imprisonment, fine, and whipping were 6,101, 21,608, and 721, as against 6,589, 20,822, and 875 in 1915.

Appeals and revisions.

91. The total number of appellants and applicants for revision was 6,110 against 6,337 in 1915. One thousand eight hundred and fifteen appeals or applications were rejected; in 3,542 cases the sentences were upheld and in 10 they were enhanced. In 510 cases the lower court's order was modified, and in 1,022 the finding was reversed. Proceedings were quashed in 30 cases, while a new trial or further enquiry was ordered in 337.

22—Prisons.

(For details see the annual report on the Jail department for the year ending 31st December, 1916, and the tables under the head "Jails," in Part VI—Statistics of British India.)

General.

92. Central jails at the end of the year were in charge of retired medical officers with experience of jail work, the only remaining officer of the I.M.S. in charge having died during the year. Three central jails were for various periods under the charge of assistant magistrates. Only a few I.M.S. officers remained in charge of district jails, their place being taken by civil assistant surgeons, retired medical officers, and private practitioners.

At the beginning of 1916 the number of prisoners of all classes in the jails was 27,984; 91,192 were admitted and 93,770 released, leaving 25,406 in confinement at the close of the year. The daily average number of prisoners in jail was 26,693 or 322 less than in 1915. At the end of the year there were 261 civil prisoners, including certain aliens, 6 Turks, 29 Arabs, and 49 Mahsuds. Forty-seven prisoners were released on account of sickness as compared with 48 in 1915, and 1,617 on other grounds, including 274 short-term prisoners released on the 1st of January, 1916, under orders of Government, and 1,343 prisoners volunteering for service in the jail labour corps in Mesopotamia. The condition of jail buildings has been much improved in recent years, and is now in general fairly satisfactory. The chief new expenditure during the year was on the construction of quarters for warders and officials. The Ganges floods made the re-construction of the jail at Ballia a matter of urgent necessity, and work was commenced.

Punishments.

93. Ten offences against jail dicipline were so serious as to need trial by Magistrates, as compared with 13 in 1915, but the decrease is nominal, as some escaped prisoners could not be brought to trial. The number of cases dealt with departmentally fell from 35,607 to 29,873, including 10,194 punished by warning. The fall is due partly to the decrease in jail population, and partly to the general improvement in the conduct of prisoners. Offences punished departmentally relating to assaults, mutiny, and escapes fell from 137 to 120, but escapes alone increased from 12 to 22, the highest for many years. Seven were from the Bareilly Central Prison, and eight from that in Agra. These escapes, apart from lax supervision, were due to unrest among the prisoners, as the result of certain prisoners not being allowed to volunteer for Mesopotamia on the one hand, and on the other, from fear of being forcibly sent there. It will probably be necessary to increase the paid staff. Floggings increased from 38 to 43.

Expenditure.

94. In spite of the considerable rise in the price of clothing, oil, iron, etc., the total expenditure fell from Rs. 19,77,773 to Rs. 18,58,557. The decrease was due to the smaller number of prisoners, comparative cheapness of food, and purchases of grain at harvest time. The total cost per head of jail population per annum fell from Rs. 73 to Rs. 69.

Employment.

95. The total net cash profit earned by the jail factories during the year was Rs. 4,02,950 as against Rs. 3,96,980 in the preceding year, thus continuing the steady increase of the last six years. Five thousand blankets were made for military purposes.

Health.

96. The year was a healthy one, and the death-rate fell from 14·5 to 13·4 per mille: the incidence would have been better still but for an epidemic of relapsing fever in the Kheri jail. Economy in using quinine apparently had no deleterious effect. The central jails with a large proportion of old prisoners as usual showed the highest figures.

Juvenile Jail at Bareilly.

97. The number of juvenile prisoners convicted during the year fell from 169 to 137, a satisfactory result, due to the more careful observance of the rule for trying juveniles. Seventy youths were sent to Basra on military duty, which helped also to relieve the pressure on existing accommodation. Much-needed extensions had to be postponed for financial reasons during the war. The age-limit was raised to 21 years. On the whole the jail continued to do good work.

23—Civil Justice.

(For details see the annual reports on civil justice for the year ending 31st December, 1916, and the tables under the head "Civil Justice," in Part VI—Statistics of British India.)

AGRA.

Original suits.

98. The total number of suits instituted rose from 145,597 to 157,963, a figure far above the highest yet recorded. The increase is parallel to that of revenue litigation and is ascribable to the same causes,—the growing prosperity of the people, pressure of population, education, enlightenment, and the growth of individualism. The increase was mostly in munsifs' courts and was distributed over all descriptions of suits, except testamentary suits and those relating to religious endowments. There was also a rise in the value of suits from 460½ lakhs to 517½. The total number of suits before the courts rose from 170,787 to 186,586, and disposals from 147,359 to 161,408—another record figure. The pending file increased by only 1,750.

Appeals.

99. Appeals fell from 12,391 to 11,450, disposals from 9,029 to 8,265, and the pending file from 3,362 to 3,185. The percentage of wholly unsuccessful appeals was 61.

High Court.

100. Appeals before the High Court rose from 4,646 to 5,096, and the pending file from 2,565 to 2,922. Decisions were wholly upheld in 90 per cent. of the cases dealt with.

Applications for execution of decrees.

101. Applications instituted for execution of decrees rose from 140,173 to 145,130, and the pending file increased by 2,875 only. The percentage of fructuous applications remained at 50.

Village and honorary munsifs.

102. The number of village courts rose by 2 to 321, and the number actually working from 233 to 238. Institutions rose from 13,347 to 15,154 and disposals from 12,893 to 14,827. The pending file fell from 527 to 521. Honorary munsifs decided 5,345 cases as against 5,689 in 1915.

OUDH.

Suits.

103. Suits again increased from 67,701 to 73,055, chiefly under the head of suits for money or moveable property, disposals from 67,936 to 73,741, and the pending file from 10,352 to 11,740. The total value of suits fell from 4·04 to 2·67 crores. The greatest decline was in the Fyzabad judgeship, where the Ajudhia succession case terminated. The increase in litigation was due to the causes noted above in the Agra province.

Appeals.

104. The number of appeals fell from 2,714 to 2,574 : 565 remained pending at the end of the year as against 583 in 1915. In 69 per cent. appeals proved fruitless.

Judicial Commissioner's court.

105. In all, 1,297 appeals came before the Judicial Commissioner's Court, as compared with 1,572 in 1915. The number disposed of amounted to 789, of which 73 per cent. were wholly unsuccessful. The pending file was reduced from 688 to 508.

Applications for execution of decrees.

106. The total number of applications for execution of decrees was 68,705 as against 62,783 in 1915. The percentage of wholly infructuous applications rose from 54 to 55 per cent.

Village and honorary munsifs.

107. Village courts decreased from 112 to 100, 10 being abolished in Fyzabad. Institutions rose from 5,747 to 6,842 and disposals from 5,642 to 6,666. The number of honorary munsifs actually working was 21 as against 26 in the preceding year. Decisions decreased from 5,334 to 4,911.

KUMAUN.

Suits.

108. In Kumaun the civil suits instituted rose from 5,916 to 6,310. Bad harvests drove creditors into the law courts, and suits for money showed the most noticeable increase. The value of suits rose from 5·71 to 8·33 lakhs. The total number of suits for disposal was 7,105 as against 6,741 in 1915. The pending file rose from 624 to 817, half of which figure was in Garhwal.

Appeals.

109. The number of appeals from decrees rose from 316 to 339, of which 33 remained pending as against 45 in the preceding year. The percentage of wholly or partly successful appeals rose from 19 to 24.

Execution of decrees.

110. Applications for execution of decrees rose by 157 to 3,812. Of these 538 remained pending at the close of the year as compared with 441 in the previous year. Complete or partial satisfaction was obtained in 51 per cent. of the applications disposed of.

24—Registration.

(For details see the report on Registration for the year ending 31st December, 1916, and the tables under the head "Registration," in Part VI—Statistics of British India.)

Registration.

111. The number of all documents registered fell by 4·3 per cent. to 279,942, chiefly as the result of improved economic conditions. The figures of the two previous years had been raised by the scarcity of 1913-14, and a decline was natural. The decline was chiefly under the head of sale and disposal of moveable property which had been unduly influenced by the scarcity. Mortgages of land continued to fall slightly, but sales of land increased. The figures on the whole show that the recovery to normal conditions was not complete.

Financial.

112. The total receipts rose from Rs. 7,10,997 to Rs. 7,29,270, and the total expenditure fell from Rs. 3,13,424 to Rs. 3,12,277, chiefly owing to the withdrawal of the allowances to clerks for dearness of food. One invalided Indian non-commissioned officer was appointed sub-registrar and as vacancies occur, more will be appointed.

Prosecutions.

113. There were four prosecutions under the Registration Act during the year, or the same number as in 1915. Two ended in conviction.

Inspections.

114. Inspections decreased from 524 to 471.

25—Municipal Administration.

(For details see the annual report on Municipal Administration and Finance for the year ending 31st March, 1917, and the tables under the head "Municipalities," in Part VIII.—Statistics of British India.)

Constitution.

115. The introduction of the new Municipalities Act with effect from the 1st July, 1916, was the chief feature of the year's administration. This measure consolidated all existing enactments relating to municipalities and made important amendments in and additions to the provisions of these enactments. From a political point of view its prominent feature was that it had as one of its main objects the removal of the control exercised by official chairmen. It granted a new constitution, free from direct supervision by officials, including communal representation and the election of non-official chairmen while it also provided for internal reforms in the shape of statutory powers for chairmen, executive officers, and committees and greatly increased the powers of boards. Out of 84 boards, 59, including all the larger boards, were reconstituted and had elected non-official chairmen by the end of the year, and only a few of the remainder decided to retain officials. On the whole the change of constitution was effected harmoniously, though in a few cases, Hindu candidates either declined to stand or resigned after election on the ground that they were dissatisfied with the constitutions proposed for their boards. Owing to the reconstitution of boards the number of nominated members was reduced from 274 to 150, and that of elected members was raised from 842 to 869. The general elections for the reconstituted boards, naturally excited unusual interest, and were generally honestly conducted, though in four cases it was necessary to disqualify candidates for malpractices.

Administration.

116. The internal organization of the boards was re-modelled to suit the growing complexity of municipal administration by having the routine work carried out by the chairmen, an executive officer, the municipal staff or committees while leaving in the hands of the board powers of legislation and control. It had long been noticed that executive work had suffered from the plurality of control, and that it was necessary in the interests of the administration to concentrate it under one head, the chairman, or, in the larger municipalities an officer working under him. In these larger municipalities Government reserved the right to insist on the appointment of an executive officer, but several other boards recognizing the necessity, have taken this step of their own accord, and others are expected to follow their example. One direct effect of this reform will be to relieve the boards from a vast mass of details and agenda. A large number of meetings had to be held by boards during the year for the purpose of bringing their rules, byelaws and regulations into conformity with the new Act.

Taxation.

117. No further progress was made in the abolition of octroi owing to the fact that the final orders of the Government of India regarding terminal taxation were not received before the end of the year.

Financial receipts.

118. In spite of a reduction of 4·64 lakhs in contributions from Government, the total income of municipalities rose from 94·42 to 97·64 lakhs, equivalent to a rise of income of 7·86 lakhs, after deducting 4·64 lakhs from the previous year's figure.

Octroi receipts.

119. Octroi remained in force in 34 municipalities as in the previous year, and again showed a considerable rise with the reversion to ordinary economic conditions. The increase was 2½ lakhs, and the income was slightly above that of 1913-14 in the 34 municipalities concerned. The increase was shared by all classes of goods. Lucknow had an increase of Rs. 65,000, and only five municipalities show any decline, chiefly owing to abnormal imports in the previous year, and heavy exports in the current year. In the Hardwar Union the decrease was due to a falling off of pilgrims, the income in the previous year having been swelled by the Kumbh Mela.

Receipts from taxes other than octroi.

120. The other heads of taxation show increases as follows, in lakhs of rupees:—terminal tax 2·85, tax on houses and lands ·17, water tax ·68, tax on circumstances and property ·2, tolls ·19, and conservancy tax ·11. The increase under terminal tax is due to the higher rates imposed by the Cawnpore board and the increases in the water tax and the general tax on buildings and land are due largely to revisions of assessments. The pilgrim tax showed a large increase in Fyzabad, and a large decrease in the Hardwar Union owing to a return to normal conditions.

Receipts from sources other than taxation.

121. The revenue from sources of income other than taxation shows an increase of over one lakh. Under rents of lands, etc., and fees and revenues from markets and slaughter-houses, there was an increase of half a lakh, principally in Cawnpore, Allahabad and Bulandshahr, as the result of enhancements of rents. Conservancy receipts increased by Rs. 14,000, and sale of water by Rs. 6,000 (net). In most municipalities water works are still run at a considerable loss due mainly to a preventible waste of water by the public. In Cawnpore alone was the expenditure on water works covered by the receipts from the water tax and the sale of water, an example that might well be followed elsewhere. In many municipalities large arrears of municipal dues were reported as a result of remissions in collections.

Grants.

122. Grants from Government amounted to 8·59 lakhs for general and 1·74 lakhs for educational purposes.

Loans.

123. The loans taken during 1916-17 totalled 5·39 lakhs, or a little less than in the previous year. Lucknow received 2·2 lakhs, for construction of tube wells and rebuilding of houses, Benares Rs. 48,700 for tube wells and pumping plant, Ballia half a lakh for rebuilding houses, Agra two lakhs for water-works, and Allahabad Rs. 11,000 for constructing a workshop. Rupees 6·68 lakhs were repaid as compared with 6·55 lakhs in the previous year.

Expenditure.

124. Excluding the expenditure on the repayment of loans the total expenditure increased from 92·5 to 93·27 lakhs. Apart from 14·8 lakhs

under the head of original water and drainage works, the expenditure rose from 76·55 to 78·43 lakhs. There were substantial increases under the following heads:—lighting ·59 lakhs, maintenance of water-supply ·77 lakhs, buildings ·30 lakhs, roads ·50 lakhs, education ·82 lakhs, and decreases under the following heads:—Capital outlay on water-works 1·12 lakhs, fairs 1·09 lakhs, and miscellaneous expenditure 1·14 lakhs. The reduction in capital expenditure on water-works was due to war conditions owing to the high price of, and the difficulty in obtaining materials. The reduction under fairs is due to the special expenditure in the preceding year in connection with the Kumbh Mela at Hardwar. The main items under public works was the laying out of a model suburb in Muttra, and the improvement of a grain market in Agra. Although there was an expansion of expenditure on roads, there was a tendency as usual in many municipalities to neglect them. The expenditure on conservancy remained on the whole as before. Increases under this head were due mainly to excess expenditure on road-watering. In this connection it may be stated that the Meerut board introduced a system of watering by means of stand-pipes one hundred feet apart, to which hoses were attached.

Water works.

125. Expenditure on water-works fell from 16·9 to 16·6 lakhs. There were break-downs at Allahabad and Lucknow, which caused great inconvenience to the public, and emphasized the necessity for a special agency to supervise water-works machinery, for which proposals are under discussion.

Drainage.

126. The expenditure on drainage rose from 6·45 to 6·61 lakhs. Of the capital expenditure of Rs. 5,46,000 on new drainage works nearly three lakhs were expended in Allahabad and Lucknow, and smaller sums in Benares, Cawnpore, and Muttra.

Lighting.

127. The expenditure on lighting rose from 5·79 to 6·42 lakhs. The increase in the price of oil and other materials was the chief cause. Electric lighting was extended in Cawnpore and schemes for Lucknow and Allahabad are in hand.

Education.

128. Expenditure on education increased from 6·18 to 7 lakhs. Very little progress was possible in spending the Government grants for school buildings chiefly owing to the difficulty in procuring sites in the larger towns. Cawnpore has now followed the other large boards and appointed an inspector. Several of the municipalities have not yet worked up to the five per cent. standard of expenditure.

Vaccination.

129. Vaccination is on the whole favourably reported upon, but was unsatisfactory in Farrukhabad, Jhansi, Mau, Lucknow, Sitapur, Fyzabad, Nawabganj (Bara Banki), and Sultanpur.

Vital statistics.

130. The figures for the calendar year for births and deaths per mille were 45·15 and 36·54 respectively. The former has only once been exceeded in the last 36 years, and the latter is a slight improvement of the preceding year's figure. The decline in the infantile birth-rate is very small, and the high rate of 227·61 which prevailed clearly demonstrates the need for action on the part of the boards.

General.

131. The period was one of transition and reorganization and no important development was to be expected. The new constitution has been under trial for too short a time to allow of any definite conclusion being drawn. It is regretted, however, that on a few boards the spirit of faction has shown itself, and questions have been determined by feelings of partisanship, rather than by a consideration of the general good of the community. In the great majority of the municipalities, on the other hand, the changes have been received with a desire to co-operate and justify the extension of powers. It is hoped, therefore, that this wakening of civic duty will ultimately lead to a development of local self-government, with fully responsible municipal commissioners representing a critical electorate.

26—District Boards.

(For details see the annual report on the working of District Boards for the year ending 31st March, 1917, and the tables under the heads "Local Boards," in Part VIII.—Statistics of British India.)

Income.

132. The aggregate opening balance of the boards amounted to 75·26 lakhs or a little less than in the previous year. Excluding these and

advances and deposits amounting to 1·23 lakh the income fell from 110·44 to 110·41 lakhs. The income from pounds increased from 4·98 to 5·07 lakhs, and from fines from 4·65 to 4·71 lakhs.

Expenditure.

133. The total expenditure fell from 111·78 to 108·9 lakhs. The difference of three lakhs is due mainly to a curtailment of expenditure under public works to the extent of 6½ lakhs, counterbalanced partly by a rise of 2⅔ lakhs under the head of education. There were minor increases under medical, scientific (exhibitions), and general administration (employment of paid secretaries). The large closing balance was invested in war loan after the close of the year to the extent of 38 lakhs or one-half.

Educa

134. The number of schools, board and aided, increased from 11,123 to 11,311, and that of scholars from 628,849 to 673,829. The main feature of the year was the progress made in the reorganization of primary schools under the Piggott Scheme. Allowances were made to suit local conditions, as to the minimum area to be served by one primary school. All districts had worked out their location schemes except Mirzapur, and initiated them during the year, but the full financial effect will not be felt for some years to come, owing to the gradual working up to the incremental rates of pay of qualified teachers, and the present difficulty of obtaining trained men. Under the head of training of teachers expenditure was nearly doubled. With the continued reduction of aided schools, the grants-in-aid fell by Rs. 66,000. The most unsatisfactory were weeded out, or replaced by board schools. Their number fell thus from 3,494 to 2,144, and board schools rose from 7,629 to 9,167. The increase of scholars was confined to the lower primary classes, and as usual the numbers in the lower classes vastly outnumbered those in the upper classes. The tendency in the rural tracts is to send children to school to be out of the way at home so long as they are of no use there or in the fields, and when they are old enough to withdraw them from school. No remedy is forthcoming, and the half-time schools are unpopular with the parents of the younger children, and are not approved of by the educational authorities for the older boys, who require the whole day to get through the curriculum. The school committees in places were useful, but generally speaking they take little interest. Their position needs strengthening and their responsibilities will have to be enlarged to awake an interest in the work. In the field of sectarian education there was not much to report. Progress was made in some districts with maktabs. In some districts special schools for Chamars and Bhars were opened. Female education as usual continued to suffer from the indifference of the public, and the lack of trained teachers.

Medical.

135. The expenditure on hospitals and dispensaries rose from 8·53 to 9·24 lakhs, owing partly to the increased cost of medicines. Urgent works in the direction of buildings were postponed to the end of the war. Both the standing and travelling dispensaries continued to gain in popularity. They only touch a small margin of the population in their immediate vicinity. The compulsory distribution of quinine was gradually extended, and the attitude of the public was apathetic, so long as no call was made on their pockets.

Sanitation.

136. Expenditure on sanitation rose from Rs. 1,23,624 to Rs. 1,34,242. It was pointed out that, except for female education, no improvement meets with less approval from the rural community than sanitation. Owing to this attitude it was found necessary to withdraw the grants for cleaning up villages. The condition attached to grants, that they should be supplemented by local subscriptions was found too great a stumbling block and had to be waived. It is clear that the people are not educated sufficiently to grasp their own needs, nor have they any indigenous practitioners able to instruct them. The sanitary staff of the boards, apart from vaccinators and other medical staff is nil: in the matter of reporting deaths reliance is placed on the police, and for dealing with malaria and cholera, school masters and patwaris are used. A very much greater effort than at present is needed to cope seriously with rural insanitation, both in the matter of staff and research.

Vaccination.

137. The returns for vaccination for the calendar year in section 54 of this report may be consulted.

138. Separate returns of vital statistics are not available but those for the calendar year in section 50 of this report may be consulted if required. Vital statistics.

139. Expenditure fell from 1·22 to 1·18 lakh. Arboriculture.

140. Expenditure was reduced by 6½ lakhs, mainly under the head of original works. The problem of repairing unmetalled roads was still a difficulty to some boards, though the majority found that departmental agency was preferable to contract. Civil works.

141. The influence of whole-time paid secretaries is reflected in greater efficiency all round. The number of members was increased in most districts from three to five per tahsil, mainly with the idea of expanding tahsil committees and also to permit their association with school committees. In some districts success was attained in developing the work and responsibility of the tahsili committees, and the work done by them afforded sensible relief to the boards. Enthusiasm for their new duties and responsibilities is reported, but it is not certain how long this will endure. Complete devolution is of course impossible until each local committee has its own budget and staff. All that is practicable now is to give powers of inspection and report, and power to expend money for specific purposes. Voluntary work under these circumstances is not likely to be attended with much interest. General.

27—Volunteering.

(For details see the annual reports of Commandants of Volunteer corps for the year ending 31*st March,* 1917.*)*

142. The enrolled strength of the volunteer forces was slightly above that of the previous year. Of the cavalry 61 per cent. were extra efficient and 31 per cent. efficient, and of the infantry 71 per cent. were extra efficient and 23 per cent. efficient. In musketry 32 per cent. qualified as marksmen in the cavalry and 17 per cent. in the infantry, whilst 23 per cent. in the cavalry and 30 per cent. in the infantry qualified as first class shots. The total expenditure was Rs. 2,04,331, whilst the cash balances held by the various corps at the end of the year aggregated Rs. 51,943. The progress noticed in the report of the previous year has been well maintained. The change to the compulsory system introduced by the Indian Defence Force Act, IV of 1917, came into effect from the 1st April, 1917.

Chapter IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

28—Agriculture.

(For details see the annual reports on the administration of the department of Agriculture for the year ending 30*th June,* 1917*, on the administration of the Civil Veterinary department for the year ending* 31*st March,* 1917*, and on the working of co-operative credit societies for the year ending* 30*th June,* 1917*, the tables in the "Agricultural Statistics of India—Volume I," and those under the head "Co-operative Credit Societies" in Part II—Statistics of British India.)*

143. With a depleted staff as the result of the war no new developments could be undertaken, and it was not possible to do more than to maintain the *status quo*. In addition there were difficulties in the shape of scarcity and high prices of all iron work, which have not only greatly hampered the work of the agricultural engineering department, but interfered with the supply of machinery and implements of all descriptions, from pumping plants to ploughs. With the aid of the allotment from the wheat grant it will be possible to extend operations in the matter of seed distribution and pumping plants; it is also hoped to open departmental centres in each district for demonstration and other purposes. General.

The services of the Agricultural Chemist to the Bengal Government were placed at the disposal of these provinces in connection with experiments on the improvement of the morphine content of poppy, with a view to

supplying the world's markets, now that the Turkish supply is cut off by the war.

The scope of the department covers agricultural education, research, and experiment, demonstration work, introduction of new seeds and crops, agricultural engineering, and well-boring, sale of implements, and assistance to the public and co-operative societies.

Agricultural College.

144. The number of students in the Agricultural College at Cawnpore remained practically the same, viz. 113 as against 111 in the previous year, 54 being in the collegiate course of four years, and 59 in the two years' vernacular course. Applications for admission to both courses, especially the latter, have been in excess of vacancies, and there is no doubt as to the continued popularity of the institution. It seems that there is a considerable interest taken by certain sections of the land-holding classes in agriculture, the tangible result of which has been the establishment of private farms on several estates, and it is to the sons of these men that the courses will appeal. The examination results of the two-year men were satisfactory on the whole, but of the four-year men none has yet finished his time, and it is too early to speak of results or of prospects of employment for those who pass out successfully. The first batch of two-year men finished their training in September, 1916. Twelve out of 18 obtained service under Government, one under a District Board, one in a Native State, and one in a private estate. An employment bureau has been started for the convenience of estate owners looking out for managers.

Research and demonstration.

145. The investigation of morphine content in poppy is in progress, and if the problem is solved a valuable industry will accrue to the province. The season was again unfavourable for cotton experiments: American cotton laboured under the further disadvantage, that at least 50,000 acres, which would have been under early cotton, were sown with indigo. Cultivators, too, were induced by high prices to sell their crops in the open market instead of disposing of them at the departmental dépôts. As it was, the small quantities that came in fetched Re. 1-4 per maund over the rates for country lint. Experimental work with the mixed "Cawnpore-American" was directed to the isolation of pure varieties. The Aligarh white-flowered indigenous variety continues to be the most popular. Attention has been drawn to the need for an entomologist to deal with pink boll-worm, which damaged cotton, rice and cane. The Shahjahanpur cane farm continues to work on the same lines, particularly with a view to improve methods of cultivation to meet the requirements of the improved varieties issued. Some of the private farms using Java or ordinary canes have obtained an outturn double that of cane grown in the ordinary way by the cultivators. Much interest is taken by the public in cane now that prices for *gur* and sugar have advanced, and the unfavourable climatic conditions of 1913-14 have disappeared. The Nawabganj experimental factory worked only for a short time, and was hampered by insufficient and indifferent supplies of cane. With normal seasons it should succeed, and prove a good example of a model factory. Pusa wheat is becoming rapidly popular, and 100,000 acres in all were sown with it, mainly through the agency of co-operative societies, private farms, and departmental seed-dépôts in compact areas. It is most suitable for the central parts of the province Demonstrations in the case of cane were made on the cultivators' plots; they were assisted with manure or seed on condition of their undertaking to sow and cultivate the land under the directions given. The chief aim generally is to introduce better methods of cultivation. A successful experiment in the reclamation of 100 acres of the mild *usar* land was conducted in the Sultanpur district. A steam plough was used in the Tarai and Bhabar Government estate.

Distribution of seed.

146. Distribution of seed through the various agencies continued to be popular, and 50,000 maunds were readily sold. This work absorbed a large amount of time, but as the public is loth to pay more for seed than ordinary grain it would be difficult to throw this work on to private agency working at a profit. The chief varieties issued were Cawnpore-American and Aligarh white-flowered cottons, Java and other canes, indigo, juar,

arhar, and potato. The ground-nut is now so firmly established that practically distribution is no longer necessary.

147. The sale of implements declined owing to high prices and restricted imports. Sale of implements.

148. Successful results were obtained with green manuring, and green manuring in conjunction with super-phosphates, *nim* and *mahua* cake. Manures.

149. The fruit garden at Chaubattia continued to develop, and measures were taken to provide packing-cases, as well as for bottling of fruit and making of jam. Fruit.

150. The scarcity of plant again made it necessary to continue the previous year's policy of concentrating well-boring in districts where there was a reasonable hope of reaching a feasible supply of water. The total number of existing wells bored amounted to 573 as against 667 in 1915-16 and 1,085 in 1914-15. Apart from this work, tubes of fairly large diameter of the form introduced by Rai Amar Singh in Bulandshahr were sunk by borers, the size permitting of a pump being inserted, so that a costly masonry well is dispensed with. The chief work of the Agricultural Engineer in this direction was in connection with percolation tube-wells for power, which are practicable where conditions for wells with or without the ordinary small-bore pipes are absent. Fifteen new tube wells were sunk in various districts, principally where other means of irrigation from wells were defective. But for the war which raised prices and caused a scarcity of material, considerably more progress would have been made, and it might have been possible to prophesy their ultimate success. Well-boring.

151. Bulletins on four horticultural subjects, such as the care of lawns, etc., were issued. Publications.

Civil Veterinary Department.

152. Nine students were sent for training to the Punjab Veterinary College, and three to Bengal. With few exceptions all those undergoing courses passed their examinations. The United Provinces Veterinary Medical Society continued to do good work. The Urdu Veterinary Journal appeared monthly. Demonstrations and lectures were given to cultivators at some of the important fairs and shows. Education.

153. Mortality as reported increased from 9,418 to 15,473. Rinderpest alone was responsible for 7,563 deaths as compared with 3,767 in the previous year. Of equine diseases 41 fatal cases of glanders and farcy were reported. Action under the Glanders and Farcy Act suppressed very quickly an outbreak in the Gorakhpur and Basti districts. Surra appeared in a severe form in the Banda district, where 118 deaths occurred. Tetanus and strangles were again common with 31 and 8 deaths respectively. Of bovine diseases the figures of rinderpest have been given. Reports of 1,777 deaths from haemorrhagic septicaemia were received as against 1,593 last year. Mortality from foot-and-mouth disease and anthrax was estimated at 1,373 and 1,109 respectively, as against 1,824 and 1,585 in the previous year. Black-water fever caused 700 deaths as against 252 in the previous year. One hundred and seventy-three deaths were reported to have occurred from various other contagious diseases, which include pleuro-pneumonia, contagious abortion, tuberculosis, piroplasmosis, etc. Pleuro-pneumonia was again very destructive among sheep and goats, as many as 2,310 animals being lost, principally in the Almora district. The work at the Lucknow laboratory continued as before, but no important discovery was made ; 56,619 preventive inoculations and vaccinations or treble those of the previous year, chiefly against rinderpest, were carried out, and but for this activity mortality might have been much heavier. Two new veterinary hospitals were opened in the year, raising the total to 79. The number of patients increased from 84,476 to 92,474. The travelling dispensary at Etawah continued to do good work. The district boards remitted the fees for the castration of inferior sires, a step in the direction of improving stock. Disease.

154. One hundred and ninety-three stud bulls and buffaloes were maintained in 41 districts as against 145 in 38 districts in the previous year. Breeding.

Fifty-three bulls were lent, under the scheme recently started, to district boards and other bodies. Records of the progeny of Government bulls so lent are being maintained in some of the districts, with a view to giving substantial prizes for the best specimens of young stock. The Kheri farm had 333 head of cattle, and the Madhuri Kund farm 232. Horse and pony stallions increased from 65 to 66, of which 55 were at work : the coverings continued to increase, and numbered 3,440 or an increase of 109. Donkey stallions decreased from 19 to 17 : coverings fell from 820 to 689. Horse and mule breeding is steadily gaining popularity, and its importance has been accentuated by the war, now that external supplies have been cut off. Sheep-breeding is attaining considerable success, and the introduction of the merino strain by the department has had a beneficial effect on the wool. A few rams have been supplied to court of wards estates with good results.

Establishment.

155. The strength of the subordinate establishment increased from 179 to 185, but it was not possible, owing to the enormous demand of veterinary assistants for the war, to engage sufficient men for the new scheme of establishment, or to fill the seven vacancies at headquarters. The cost of the department rose from Rs. 1,44,961 to Rs. 1,61,133.

Co-operative societies.

156. The improvement in economic conditions enabled some progress to be made in reducing indebtedness, but it was much below expectations. It is true that drought in the beginning of 1916 was not favourable to realisations in the areas affected, and that there were arrears of rent and takavi to be paid, but the chief causes appear to be internal, i.e. a want of the co-operative spirit in the case of the older primary societies, the members of which do not look on their own indebtedness as a menace to the society to which they belong, and in the case of central societies to inability to collect dues. Recoveries amounted to 24·43 and loans to 23·96 lakhs, and the outstandings were 43·91 lakhs, half of which was overdue. The number of societies rose from 3,189 to 3,245, but members fell from 118,864 to 114,165; working capital remained stationary at 120 lakhs. There was an increase in liquidations : including 83 from the previous year; there were 157, of which 31 were completed, leaving 126, and a further increase is expected. The needs of internal re-organisation were considered and steps were taken to eliminate unsound primary societies, and to train staff and organisers. Progress was made in converting existing Government stock to the new 5 per cent. war loan. As in the previous year societies were used for developing agriculture, in the matter of distributing improved seed, cattle-breeding, etc. The central societies supported the war-loan to the extent of 6·95 lakhs, and contributed also to war charities. The annual provincial conference was postponed to December, 1917.

Central societies.

157. Central societies at district headquarters, which finance all co-operative institutions in the district, are known as district banks : those situated in the interior of the district with a limited area of operations are known as central banks. Two new district banks were registered at Mirzapur and Sitapur, raising the number to 29, in addition to 22 central banks and seven banking unions. Their working capital decreased from 64·4 to 64·13 lakhs, but the share capital and reserve funds rose from 8·94 and 4·81 to 10·23 and 5·51 lakhs. Deposits and loans (including Government loan) aggregated 43·23 lakhs, of which 36·5 per cent. is covered by share capital and reserve. There was again a large fall in profits, which decreased appropriations to reserve and other funds, ascribable mainly to the exclusion of overdue interest by some banks, and to a lesser extent to idle balances. The latter were caused by the apprehension that many of the primary societies were not sound enough to be trusted with more money. The total profits fell from 1·37 to ·78 lakhs. Advances to subordinate central banks and to primary societies were respectively 4·22 and 22·81 lakhs. The former repaid 4·90 and the latter 24·79 lakhs. Outstandings fell from 46·25 to 43·57 lakhs, but overdue arrears rose from 12·3 to 15·26 lakhs, in addition to 2·7 lakhs postponed. These figures

emphasise the need for better methods and means for realisation from primary societies.

158. The number of primary agricultural societies rose from 2,944 to 3,003, but their membership fell from 106,333 to 102,312, owing to the fact that new societies had fewer members than those liquidated. The total working capital remained constant at 51·36 lakhs. Share capital increased, the increase representing the bulk of the individual savings of the members, to 10·16 lakhs, but the increase was less than in the previous year, owing to greater default in payment. Reserve funds and profits rose and fell from 4·69 and 1·79 to 6·36 and 1·71 lakhs respectively. The profits include overdue interest. Members' deposits decreased by Rs. 1,000, excluding deposits transferred to central societies. The proportion of capital owned by members individually or collectively increased from 27·6 to 33·6 per cent. The rate of interest remained at 15 per cent. The total sum due from members at the beginning of the year was 45·3 lakhs, 23·96 lakhs were advanced and 24·43 principal and 6·12 lakhs interest were collected, leaving an outstanding balance of 44·84 lakhs, including 6·06 lakhs interest. Arrears were 21·51 lakhs, and ·79 lakh postponement, for which reasons have been given above. Advances were mostly for purchase of bullocks and payment of rent. Rural societies.

159. Non-agricultural primary societies fell in number from 182 to 179, and the membership remained approximately steady at 6,921; their capital, however, increased from 4·62 to 4·91 lakhs. Of the above ten were non-credit societies, ten were limited liability, and the remaining 159 unlimited liability credit societies. The limited liability societies were chiefly clerks' associations and on the whole did fairly well. The unlimited liability societies were still in a precarious state and little could be done to improve them, although their indebtedness was reduced to 2·25 lakhs, of which 1·03 is overdue. The amount owned by them out of the working capital rose from 25 to 30 per cent. Of the ten non-credit societies, eight were distributive stores connected with colleges etc., the others being the Bareilly Carpenters' Workshop, and the Garhwal Transport and Supply Association. Most of them did well, but one was ruined by the peculations of the manager. Urban Societies.

29—Weather and Crops.

(For details see the annual season and crop report for the year ending 30th June, 1917, the "Agricultural Statistics of British India," Volume I, the "Area and yield of certain principal crops in India," and "Prices and wages in India.")

160. The period covered by this paragraph relates to the seasons following those which concern the crops from which the land revenue of 1915-16 was payable, i.e. from June 1916. The year under report was again one of heavy rain, but compared with the previous year the rainfall was well distributed over the whole of the provinces, and in no part was there any deficiency. The monsoon began a little before the usual date, in the second week of June, during which month it produced heavy and general rain, particularly in the Allahabad division. Except for a short break in July there was continuous rain, which hampered weeding and ploughing, throughout that month, and to a greater extent in August also. Cloudy and wet weather retarded the growth of cotton and maize. The rainfall of September also, in spite of breaks, was above the average, particularly in the Kumaun, Meerut, and Rohilkhand divisions. Heavy floods on the Jumna and on the Ganges, particularly on the latter to the east of Allahabad, destroyed crops and villages. The monsoon ended in the first week of October or somewhat later than usual. Rainfall on the whole was in excess everywhere except in Oudh and the two eastern divisions of Agra. The cold weather rainfall was less favourably distributed: though there was rain amounting to three times the normal in Jhansi and Allahabad, and useful showers in the Lucknow division in November, wet weather did not set in till the end of Character of the season.

January, when showers were received in Rohilkhand towards the end of the month, followed a few days later in February, by general rain throughout the provinces. The continuous rain throughout the kharif season was not beneficial to all classes of crops, particularly cotton, maize, and juar, especially the first. The rice crop except where swamped by heavy floods, was an unusually good one. Cane suffered from water-logging in Rohilkhand, and to a lesser extent elsewhere, the outturn being on the whole disappointing. In the rabi, ploughing was restricted by the late rainfall of the monsoon, which however supplied sufficient moisture for germination. The winter rains came too late to obviate the labour of irrigation, but helped, though late, to improve the outturn on dry lands Wet weather in May did some damage to crops on the threshing floors.

Cultivated area.

161. The total cultivated area slightly exceeded thirty-six million acres, representing an increase of 1·2 million acres, or 3·5 per cent. above the accepted normal. The kharif crop rose by ·32 million acres, or 1 per cent. and was 3 per cent. above normal. The increase was largest in the Meerut and Agra divisions, which suffered from drought in the previous year. There was some decline in the Allahabad and Jhansi divisions, which was made good in the rabi. The rabi area rose by ·76 million acres, or 4 per cent. to 9 per cent. above normal. The rise was general, except for a slight fall in Oudh, where difficulty was experienced in preparing the land. Of the kharif crops there was a considerable rise in area under the head of rice, but some falling off under maize and millets. Bajra which is not suited to wet years declined considerably. The large drop in cotton last year was made good by one-half in the current year, in respect to its pre-war figure, and but for the competition of indigo, might have improved even more. Indigo rose from 43,248 to 158,621 acres in the expectation of high profits, which however were not fully realised, and this crop does not appear likely to be a permanent rival to cotton in the western districts. Difficulties occurred in selling the manufactured indigo. The sugarcane area remained much as in the previous year, and there were complaints of shortage of seed. In Rohilkhand and other cane-growing areas there was a decline, in spite of the high prices of *gur*. Hemp, owing to the increased demand and high prices, increased considerably; it is grown chiefly in the Fatehpur, Allahabad, Benares, and Jaunpur districts. Of the rabi crops, wheat recovered by 164,000 acres to 6,887,000 acres, but this is still below the normal, and the area of the years preceding the scarcity of 1913-14. Although prices were high, the extended and heavy rains of the monsoon months restricted preparation of the land, so that barley took its place over a large area. This crop was sown over an area 20 per cent. above normal. Another reason for this rise is that seed prices have risen and it is a comparatively cheap crop to grow. Gram again showed a considerable increase. The linseed area increased as the result of high prices. Of miscellaneous crops, potatoes and ground-nuts continued to increase.

Irrigation

162. With a wet year irrigation declined from 12·1 to 11·6 million acres, or from 31 to 30 per cent. of the cultivated area. The decrease was greatest in the Meerut and Agra divisions which last year owing to drought had a high area under irrigation. Half the irrigation was from wells and other sources such as tanks and rivers. The tanks were full and furnished a cheaper method of watering than wells. Irrigation in the kharif season, which is on a small scale compared with that in the rabi, showed as much as 107,362 acres under the head of indigo. Of the total rabi area 44 per cent. was irrigated as compared with 46 in the previous year. There was a smaller demand in the canal districts in the west. Fifty-seven per cent. of the wheat was irrigated, but a good proportion of the area lies in the submontane districts, where irrigation, though useful, is not a *sine qua non* and also in the black cotton soils of Bundelkhand which are retentive of moisture. The number of masonry wells in actual use was 536,427 as compared with 537,549 in the previous year. Twelve thousand and seventy-two new wells were built or somewhat below the previous year's figure. It should be mentioned that those parts of the provinces which lend themselves readily to well construction are now for the most part adequately protected.

Since the year 1896-97, which witnessed the beginning of a cycle of dry seasons, there has been a steady effort to improve the protection in the areas dependent on wells. Since that year no less than 300,000 masonry wells, partly with advances from Government, and partly otherwise, have been constructed. The effect of this may be seen in the returns of the extremely dry year 1913-14, when the rainfall was actually less than in 1896-97. In the former year the wheat area was 6,376,670 acres as compared with 4,931,710 acres in the latter. Extensive failures of crops, such as were experienced in the latter year, are now almost impossible. The interest in well construction is likely to die down with a continuance of the heavy monsoons such as have occurred in the last two years, but the dry cycle has undoubtedly left the provinces a very valuable legacy in the shape of a vastly improved system of protection, both in the matter of wells and canals. Problems which still remain to be overcome are those of the submontane districts for which the ordinary form of well is unsuitable and of smaller areas such as are met with in the Muttra and Agra districts in which the water level is deep, and mechanical power will be found to be the solution for economically lifting water, as compared with the present high cost of irrigating and the expensive initial outlay on deep masonry wells. In the high sandy central parts of the province the solution may be in a comparatively cheap type of well. The engineering problem in Agra and Muttra, where it is necessary at times to go 350 feet below the surface of the ground, is beyond the capacity of the ordinary land owner, whether aided by advances or not. If the wet cycle continues the problem of the future will be the drainage of water-logged tracts.

Outturn.

163. The outturn of the kharif as apart from acreage was on the whole poor, except in the case of rice. Cotton, juar and bajra were 25 and cane 15 per cent. below normal. Cotton suffered from heavy rainfall, which stripped the plant of flower and bolls, and in the Duab the produce was only 50 per cent. Cane suffered from the borer pest and water-logging. Indigo had a good outturn. The rabi, on the other hand, was an all-round good crop, but suffered on the threshing floors from rain in May. In Fyzabad the yield was moderate owing to insufficiency of ploughing, but in the western districts and Rohilkhand it was good.

Prices.

164. The price of wheat in the Cawnpore market, which was lower than in the previous year, remained steady at 9·5 seers to the rupee from June to October 1916, rising after sowing in November to 8·25 and falling suddenly at harvest in April 1917 to 10·25 seers, the reason for this being accumulated stocks. There was a rise in May to 9·75, and in June to 9·25. Exports of wheat fell by 37 per cent. to 3·9 million maunds. Barley and gram, too, were cheaper, and showed similar fluctuations, from 13·5 and 13 to 14 and 14·12 seers to the rupee by June 1917. Juar and maize also were cheaper, falling at harvest, and varying from 15·5 and 16 to 14·5 and 16·5 seers. The exports of food grains, other than wheat, rose by 280 per cent. to 7·4 million maunds. The most notable feature of the year was a sudden rise in the price of cotton, largely in consequence of the poor harvest, not only in these provinces, but elsewhere in India. The price of *gur* again was high. Exports of cotton and *gur* declined. On the whole the year was a profitable one to the cultivator, both as regards produce and prices. Oilseeds were exported to the extent of 9·9 million maunds or a little above the previous year's figure.

30—Horticulture.

(For details see the annual reports on the Horticultural garden at Lucknow, and the Botanical gardens at Saharanpur for the year ending 31*st March,* 1917.*)*

Horticultural gardens.

165. The demand for acclimatised flower seeds from the Lucknow gardens continued to rise, and the issues to schools and colleges, which expanded to 11,076 packets were much appreciated. Four brochures on gardening were issued, as mentioned in paragraph 151 above. Specimens of the pestilential weedy shrub, Lantana Camara, which has a bad reputation

in some localities for contaminating water supplies, were sent to district officers and municipalities, with instructions for its eradication. The garden on the whole had a good year, and nearly all traces of the damage caused by the floods in the previous year had disappeared. The receipts amounted to Rs 12,251 or much the same as in the previous year, while the expenditure fell from Rs. 30,626 to Rs. 27,748. One lakh five thousand plants and cuttings were sold or distributed, including 4,000 silk-rearing mulberry plants, 66,500 economic plants, and 3,000 fruit trees. Free distribution of plants to Government and other institutions numbered 66,500, to a value of Rs. 3,860. The net cost of the upkeep of the garden was small and was amply repaid in the popularity of the garden and the influence exercised in raising the standard of horticulture in these provinces. Trained gardeners were again in great demand and a register of men available was opened. The three years' course for head gardeners (chaudhris) contained 16 students of whom three passed out. Training was also given to private students in a two-years' course. The classes were well filled and there is a keen demand for the men turned out. The arboriculture class was discontinued.

Botanical gardens.

166. The year marked the centenary of the Saharanpur Botanical gardens under British rule; these gardens have been instrumental in the introduction of many valuable fruits and vegetables in Upper India. Their history for the past 100 years shows how wide a correspondence is maintained with foreign countries with a view to the introduction of new plants of economic value, and the exchange of products, particularly with the gardens of the United State, which have successfully acclimatised fruits and vegetables from Saharanpur. The names of former Superintendents include Dr. Falconer and Dr. Jameson, who were instrumental in introducing the cultivation of tea in the surrounding hilly districts.

The season was favourable, except for an epidemic of insects and shortage of canal water. The latter is now remedied by the sinking of two tube wells by the Agricultural department. The necessity arose from the fact that canal irrigation is to be stopped for sanitary reasons in the vicinity of Saharanpur; in any case well water is more suitable, in that the supply is regular, and of a more equable temperature in the months of extreme heat and cold, while over-watering is obviated. The area of the gardens was extended. Further progress was made in acclimatization and other experimental work, particularly in the matter of vegetables. Fruit packing is now on a firm basis and arrangements for bottling are in hand.

The receipts fell from Rs. 22,435 to Rs. 19,890, but were practically equal to those of the year before last. The difference is due to the receipt of Rs. 3,000 in the previous year on account of seeds actually supplied in the current year. The value of seeds, etc., supplied free to hospitals, etc., was Rs. 1,716. Expenditure rose from Rs. 36,624 to Rs. 38,676. Economy was practised and there was a saving of Rs. 2,269 on the budget estimate. Fresh additions were made to the experimental garden at Dehra Dun, and the results of the experiments should improve the growing of fruit in that district. The overseer class was discontinued, but the head-gardener (chaudhri) class was well filled and trained men were in demand by the public.

31—Forests.

(For details see the annual progress report on forest administration for the year ending 30th June, 1917, and the tables under the head "Forest," Part IV—(b), Statistics of British India.)

Area and demarcation.

167. State forests decreased in area from 7,524 to 7,510 square miles. The principal changes occurred in the Kumaun circle, where 566 square miles of protected forests were settled and notified as reserved, and 13 square miles were excluded as the result of abandonment of proposals for reservation and of revision of figures at settlement. Settlement was in progress in

Kumaun as well as in the Etawah and south Kheri divisions. The Almora settlement was completed at a cost of Rs. 213 to the square mile The total expenditure on settlement in the year was Rs. 11,867, and on survey Rs. 38,693 mostly in Kumaun, as compared with Rs. 68,200 and Rs. 17,060 in the previous year. The cost of demarcation totalled Rs. 37,428 including Rs. 27,864 on new work, mostly in the Kumaun circle.

Revenue.

168. The revenue realised during the year amounted to 53·87 as against 37·86 lakhs in the previous year. The surplus rose from 11·59 in the previous year to 25·4 lakhs. The chief increase in revenue was 12·35 lakhs under timber, ·95 under fuel, and 2·27 under other produce mainly turpentine.

Expenditure.

169. The total expenditure rose from 26·27 to 28·46 lakhs. Out of this 2·19 lakhs increase, the following items are noteworthy:—timber extracted by Government agency 1·73 lakh due to extensions of work under timber, fuel for cantonments, and resin; ·48 lakh due to the increased share of the Tehri darbar from leased forests; tools and plant, purchase of three motor lorries for transporting resin to Kathgodam; establishment ·36 lakh, due to increases of pay in the higher and lower grades. There was a large saving of one lakh under the head of settlement, communications, and buildings. Half of the expenditure was in the Kumaun circle.

Outturn.

170. The outturn of timber and firewood was 8·5 and 17·6 million cubic feet as against 7·5 and 13 million cubic feet respectively in the previous year; the total value of timber and fuel increased from 29·8 to 46·8 lakhs. The increase of timber was due to the larger quantity available under the revised working plans, felling of dead trees, and arrear coupes. Fuel increased as the result of the brisk demand. A better outturn in the Lansdowne division increased the value of the output of bamboos from 1·9 to 2·2 lakhs. Minor produce rose in value from 9·87 to 14·45 lakhs, chiefly under the head of turpentine and resin distilled at the departmental factory at Bhowali. Sixty-three thousand and twenty-eight maunds of crude resin were treated, resulting in an outturn of 84,565 gallons of turpentine, as against 9,065 maunds of resin dealt with in the previous year There was a strong demand for turpentine and most of the produce was disposed of. Cash sales amounted to 5·3 lakhs, while stocks in hand and outstandings raised the assets to 9·43 lakhs. Departmental collection of resin proved successful. The quality of the resin, however, was inferior, and large stocks remained in hand unsold. The net profit was three lakhs as against 1·15 in the previous year. The sales were combined with those of the Punjab factory, and the market was thus entirely controlled. The plant worked fairly well, and an additional factory, with plant to be made in India, is to be put up at Bareilly. A rope-way from Bhowali to Kathgodam is also contemplated to replace the three motor lorries. The Chakrata factory plant is to be re-erected at Bhowali. Timber work in Kumaun was affected by the unexpected cessation of imports of creosote oil necessary for sleeper treatment, and the stoppage of work led to the cancellation of the contract with the Railway Board. Three out of ten lakhs of sleepers ordered were supplied. A review of three years' operations showed a loss of ten annas a sleeper at the prices paid. The new saw mill at Sitapur cost Rs. 30,000 and began work on a small scale, to convert sleepers into ordinary marketable shapes. There was a keen demand for roughly squared timber. Silver fir logs were extracted for the Bareilly match factory, but this closed before the end of the year. An experiment of selling wooden parts of agricultural implements manufactured departmentally was successful in Garhwal.

Breaches of forest rules.

171. Breaches of forest rules rose from 3,641 to 4,681, including 2,698 unauthorised fellings and removals, and 1,597 unlawful grazings. Cases brought into court numbered 307 inclusive of 43 pending at the beginning of the year, and 47 remained pending at the close of the year. Out of 260 cases tried out, conviction was obtained in 215 or 83 per cent. The number of cases compounded totalled 3,691 involving 15,725 persons, as compared with the previous year's figures of 3,515 cases and 10,920 persons. The average compensation taken rose from Rs. 2-3-7 to Rs. 2-7-10 per person. The increase in cases was due to the extension of protection

to new areas, most cases occurring in Etawah, and to greater vigilance. Compensation was again lowest in Kumaun, where leniency was advisable on account of the increase in the reserved area. Undetected fire cases fell from 96 to 65.

Protection from fire.

172. The season was a very favourable one for successful protection from fire, and their number fell from 441 affecting 388 square miles to 100 over 109 square miles. The area under protection rose from 2,868 to 3,617 square miles or 48·18 per cent. of the total area. Of this 99·7 per cent. was successfully protected as against 89·9 in the previous year. The only serious incendiarism was in the Banda division, committed with the object of injuring a grass contractor, but detection was impossible. Dacoits were responsible for fires in Gonda and Lalitpur. The damage caused by the fires of May 1916 was found to be extensive in the Naini Tal division, so much so that 28,000 chir trees in high forest were killed outright. Cases in court fell from 40 to 27.

Grazing.

173. The income from grazing and fodder grass fell slightly from 1·57 to 1·56 lakhs. Of the total grazing area of 7,510 square miles, 2,233 were closed to all animals for the whole year, 1,005 were closed to camels, goats and sheep only, while 4,117 remained open to all animals throughout the year. Nearly three quarters of the grazing ground is in the Kumaun circle. The number of cattle for which grazing was provided rose from 9·8 to 10·2 lakhs.

Communication and buildings.

174. The total expenditure for new roads and repairs to roads fell from 1·08 to ·95 lakhs: 172 miles of new roads and paths were constructed, and 5,504 miles were repaired. The recently made Sarda valley road was improved, and a 64-foot span bridge was made. The improvement of communications in Kumaun was pointed out to be a prime necessity, in view of the experience gained in Almora. There was considerable economy in buildings and the expenditure mainly on accommodation for subordinates fell to ·64 lakhs.

General.

175. The booms at Baramdeo and Dakhpathar were profitable sources of income, and the latter netted Rs. 12,063 as against Rs. 11,610 in the previous year. The season was a poor one for the seeding of sal, deodar, and oak. Sal saplings transplanted from nurseries promised well. Experiments in chir and other sowings were made. Tending operations were expanded profitably, and further development in this direction is proposed. Artificial reproduction was carried on mainly in the Afforestation and Etawah divisions, and in the latter in particular, success was obtained in what would otherwise be unprofitable ravine land. A sudden and urgent demand by the Munitions Board for certain classes of tanning materials led to a short but strenuous departmental campaign from April to June 1917 for their collection. Sixteen thousand three hundred and nineteen maunds were collected and despatched to the Government tannery at Allahabad. There were included some quantities of a common climber (Bauhinia Vahlii) found in the Eastern circle, the bark of which is useful for the purpose, and the fibre, too, might be capable of exploitation. Proposals for leasing the cultivation of lac in Banda were made. The fuel supply for Lansdowne and Chakrata was continued. Lance shafts were indented by the Military department, but were rejected. Forty different species of wood were supplied to the Government Carpentry School at Bareilly. Charcoal briquettes were unsuccessful. No results of the usefulness of the *ulla* grass consignments to London for paper manufacture were reported. A waggon load of the bulbs of Urginea Indica was sent to Allahabad at the instance of the Director of Industries for the purpose of ascertaining their use for sizing, but no result had been reported before the close of the year. Success, however, was obtained in the distillation of tar from chir wood, the fibre of which was too twisted to be of use as timber, and the quality was found to be equal to that of the best Stockholm tar imported into the country. It remains now to develop manufacture on a commercial scale. The Ordnance department made experiments in wood distillation with a view to the preparation of acetone, acetic acid, and methyl alcohol. Walnut timber for rifle stocks was in great demand. The United Provinces Forest training class was closed in the year. From March to June wild elephants from Nepal

did much damage in the Haldwani division. Trout culture in Kumaun continued to expand. The war work consisted of the supply of metre gauge sleepers to the railways, which were thus enabled to spare sleepers for the war. The department supplied direct 4½ lakhs of cubic feet of sal and chir timber to the Army department, saving three lakhs of rupees to the latter. Tanning materials, too, were supplied as mentioned above.

32—Mines and Quarries.

(For details see the tables under "Mineral production" in Part I—Statistics of British India.)

Mines.

176. No regular mines were worked. Small quantities of gold were washed in the Naini Tal, Bijnor, and Garhwal districts of the estimated value of Rs. 426. Iron ores valued at Rs. 770 were extracted in Garhwal and Jhansi.

Quarries.

177. In the Almora district 49,350 slates worth Rs. 4,809 were quarried, as against 31,142 worth Rs. 5,775 in the previous year. Some slate was obtained in Naini Tal. The Mirzapur stone quarries produced 118,498 tons, principally building stone, or 47,687 less than in the previous year; the value of the outturn was 2·4 lakhs. The Banda quarries produced 7,252 tons to the value of Rs. 26,710. The Garhwal and Naini Tal districts produced 428 tons of limestone, or much the same quantity as in the previous year, to a value of Rs. 2,656 and 76 tons of soap-stone worth Rs. 7,560 were obtained from Hamirpur.

33—Manufactures.

(For details see the tables in Parts I and II—Statistics of British India.)

Cotton.

178. Cotton ginning and pressing factories numbered 112, employing 12,364 operatives as compared with 114 employing 12,723 men in the previous year. The number of cotton mills fell from 19 to 18, and they employed 16,014 work-people with 5,009 looms and 491,572 spindles, as against 16,456 operatives with 5,090 looms and 487,632 spindles in the previous year. This result was due to lack of raw material. Those factories which made speculative purchases of cotton did well.

Sugar factories.

179. The number of large sugar factories remained stationary at nine. The number of hands increased from 2,254 to 2,398. Sugar factories are now working under very favourable conditions, but no new factories can be started owing to abnormal difficulties in obtaining plant.

Indigo.

180. The number of indigo factories employing more than 50 men increased from 20 to 25, and the operatives from 5,783 to 22,276. Of the 25 factories five were worked by mechanical power.

Lac.

181. The number of lac factories (all in Mirzapur) rose from 25 to 30, and the workmen employed from 2,087 to 3,093. This industry did well and benefited from high prices, touching as much as Rs. 100 per maund. In order to check gambling speculations a notification under the Articles of Commerce Ordinance of 1914 was issued calling on all dealers in certain districts to make a return of lac in their possession.

Tanneries.

182. One new tannery was started at Cawnpore raising the total to 9. The number of operatives increased from 4,225 to 5,253. The large tanneries of the province devoted themselves exclusively to supplying leather to the Military department.

Miscellaneous.

183. Other factories at work included one brewery, six iron and brass foundries, two flour mills, two oil mills, nine printing presses, three dairies, one glass factory, 37 tile factories, and 56 others. Besides the one glass factory mentioned, there is a small one at Bijhoi in Moradabad, which specialised in high quality glass for laboratories, etc., but its chief product was lamp chimneys, globes, etc., for which the demand is increasing. In addition there is the bangle industry at Firozabad, which owing to the cutting off of the Austrian supply has made efforts to supply the

same quality and has had a good year. The prices are such as would enable the makers to meet competition in future, but to fulfil requirements considerable expansion will be necessary. The 56 miscellaneous factories include Government or municipal factories and railway workshops : these employed 34,033 hands as compared with 25,693 in 1915-16. The oil-pressing industry, which is a promising one, was handicapped by inability to import new plant. The Bareilly match factory, in spite of efforts to keep it working, had to be closed in May 1917. There were difficulties in procuring chemicals and paper from abroad, and until these are produced in the country there is little hope for this industry : moreover the average inland cost of carriage is greater than sea-freight from the match-producing countries, and customs duty falls as heavily on the local as on the imported article. A Government experimental factory for extracting soda and commercial alkalis from usar deposits was started at Cawnpore, and if successful should remove the shortage now keenly felt by many industries. The Central Emporium at Cawnpore continued to aid the smaller industries, in spite of prohibition of certain classes of imports into the United Kingdom. Its financial condition improved and it was found possible to credit to Government Rs. 2,280 profits earned on sales, and to reduce the subsidy for the forthcoming year to Rs. 8,000.

Weaving schools.

184. The weaving schools at Tanda and Almora were closed and two were started at Etawah and Budaun, the cost of these being shared equally by Government and the district boards concerned. Two new peripatetic schools will be added to the two already in existence. The total expenditure on the seven weaving schools was reduced from Rs. 41,716 to Rs. 26,246 and the Government grant from Rs. 27,765 to Rs. 15,625 in accordance with the new scale. There were 123 students at the end of the year as compared with 109 in the previous year. The dyeing school opened in Cawnpore in July 1914 has proved its usefulness beyond doubt, and has been established on a permanent basis with an increased staff. Out of 92 applicants 20 were selected as regular students. The school now provides instruction for two classes of dyers, foremen and artisans. Of the seven students who appeared last year in the City and Guild Institute of London examination six passed. Demonstrations of dyeing were given by the pupils at five fairs and exhibitions. They were awarded a silver medal at Meerut and certificates of merit at other places. The peripatetic dyeing school started in June 1916 has visited three districts and was of use in instructing the local dyers in the use of indigenous dyes in place of those unobtainable owing to the war. The leather working school started experimentally at Cawnpore in December 1915 with a two years' course had 34 students on the roll. The lending library continued to be freely patronised by the public.

Joint Stock Companies.

185. Five new joint stock companies with a capital of Rs. 5,55,000 were registered during the year entitled Commercial Banking, Shoe Manufacturing, Cinema-rink-theatrical, Export-Trust, and Printing and Publishing.

34—Trade.

(For details see the annual reports on inland and foreign trade for the year ending 31st March, 1917, and the accounts of trade carried by rail and river in India.)

Additions to the railway system.

186. No additions were made to the railway systems.

Total rail-borne traffic.

187. The volume of the rail-borne traffic increased by 29¾ lakhs of maunds to 12,84, and the increase in value amounted to 7·46 crores. The increase took place in the import trade, chiefly under the heads of coal, coke and salt. Exports remained stationary. Conditions on the whole point to return to prosperity, and decreases in trade may be ascribed to diminished sea imports arising from the war. Exports exceed imports by 5·14 crores in value.

Imports.

188. Imports rose by 30½ lakhs of maunds to 721·38. There was a decrease from Calcutta and the Punjab, and increases from other parts. Under the head of import of coal and coke the record figure of 3·64 crores of

maunds was attained, or 27 lakhs increase, six being for railway, and 21 for other purposes. Considering that ginning factories worked short time on account of a poor cotton crop, the rise indicates growing industrial activity. Cotton goods on the other hand declined by 1,82,538 maunds mostly under foreign piece-goods. Probably this decrease was due to diminished sea imports and high prices. Dyes and tans continued to increase, by 77,960 maunds, owing to the larger demands at the Cawnpore Tanneries. Imports of grain and pulse continued to decline by 16½ lakhs of maunds, there being, however, a rise in juar and bajra of 13 lakhs mostly from Rajputana and Central India, as the result of poor crops in these provinces. Iron and steel fell by 3 42,927 maunds owing to the scarcity and high prices of these metals, but brass rose by 34,833 maunds. The net decrease under metals was 3,01,000 maunds, ascribable to restriction of sea imports and high prices. The imports of salt were the largest on record, viz. 73 lakhs of maunds, the increase over last year's figure being due probably to the depletion of stocks. Imports of gur, rab, and the like improved, but refined sugar declined from 11,55,876 to 9,38,284 maunds, the decrease being confined principally to those from Karachi and Bombay. Wool increased from 91,997 to 1,26,399 maunds on account of the demand at the Cawnpore factories. Summing up it may be said that the year was a prosperous one from the agricultural point of view, and there was less demand for grain and more for other commodities, but this latter was checked by high prices and restricted sea imports.

Exports.

189. Exports fell by 73,310 maunds to 5,62,69,057 maunds. Raw cotton exports declined owing to a poor outturn of the crop from 15½ to 12 lakhs of maunds. Fodder dropped by half from 31,88,919 to 15,73,027 maunds, chiefly to the Punjab, where there was a fodder famine in the previous year, and to Rajputana and Central India, but there was an increase of 3½ lakhs of maunds to Karachi, mainly on war account. Following on the large increase of 107 lakhs of maunds in the previous year there was a further rise of nine lakhs in grain and pulse. Exports of gram and pulse rose from 55 to 85 lakhs of maunds. Of this 19 lakhs went to Bombay and Karachi, and the remainder to Calcutta, Bihar and Orissa. Exports of wheat which rose last year by 48 lakhs of maunds dropped from 76 to 50 lakhs, of which Calcutta took 34 and Karachi 7. Juar and bajra decreased by 19 lakhs of maunds. Hemp exports made a considerable advance of 2,29,565 maunds chiefly in the direction of Calcutta and Bombay. There was a strong demand for export, and the hemp area is increasing steadily. Hides and skins increased by 91,903 maunds, chiefly owing to the European demand. Marble and stone dropped eight lakhs of maunds. Oilseeds increased by three lakhs of maunds: linseed showed a large increase following on the large area sown, and there was an improvement in rape and mustard, but the other oilseeds declined. Calcutta and Bombay took 41 and 31 lakhs of maunds out of a total of 102¾ lakhs. Saltpetre again increased considerably to 3,13,310 maunds, possibly owing to military requirements. Exports of unrefined sugar exceeded the previous year's figure by 1,12,505 maunds, but those of gur, rab, etc., fell off by over six lakhs of maunds. Exports of refined sugar were stationary. The net decrease under all heads of sugar is accounted for by a short area and outturn. Indian tea again increased, from 29,458 to 31,564 maunds.

Trade of Cawnpore.

190. The trade of Cawnpore followed the trend elsewhere, but war industries, as explained above, caused an increased consumption of wool and tanning materials, as well as coal. Exports and imports both increased.

Internal rail-borne traffic.

191. The volume of rail-borne traffic increased from 319 to 355 lakhs of maunds. There was an increase under all heads, except metals and oilseeds. There was an increased import of grain into the Upper Duab, Benares, and Rohilkhand, of mineral substances into Cawnpore City, and of grain, railway plant, etc., into the Middle Duab. North and South Oudh reduced their imports of grains, and the Lower Duab its import of mineral substances. North and South Oudh and Gorakhpur increased their exports of grain, while Bundelkhand and Rohilkhand show decreases thereunder.

River-borne traffic.

192. The river-borne traffic with Calcutta amounted to 1,04,169 maunds imports, and 26,017 maunds exports. There was a decrease in

both. Imports of cotton goods, metals and salt were reduced, while grains improved. Exports of grains and oilseeds declined.

FOREIGN TRADE.

Tibet.

193. Imports from Tibet rose in weight from 78,484 to 79,136 maunds and in value from 10·2 to 12·7 lakhs. Borax showed an increase of 4,893 maunds and wool 484 maunds, but there was a decrease of 4,749 maunds under salt, and the number of cattle imported fell off considerably, but the previous year's figures were high. Exports fell from 53,704 maunds valued at five lakhs, chiefly under the head of grain (10,190 maunds) and sugar (2,740 maunds), and to a less extent under tea and metals. There was a local shortage of grain in Almora and Garhwal, where the rabi failed and sugar was scarce. Trade was hampered by damage to the road from the earthquake, and from an epidemic among the transport animals.

Nepal.

194. Imports from Nepal rose from 21,15,803 maunds valued at 126 lakhs to 21,40,784 maunds valued at 135 lakhs, while exports fell from 3,50,617 maunds valued at 58 lakhs to 3,30,806 maunds valued at 49 lakhs. The import trade with Basti, Gorakhpur, and Naini Tal exceeded that of the previous year, but elsewhere it fell off. Under the stimulus of better prices an increase of 41,616 maunds occurred under oilseeds, of 24,404 maunds under raw fibrous products, and of 9,295 maunds under hides and skins. Silver coins and animals were imported in a much larger number than in the previous year. Imports of grain fell off owing to short crops in Nepal, and ghi and spices declined by 1,786 and 3,267 maunds respectively. Exports to Nepal, which had steadily declined during the last four years, showed a further decrease as above, and is common to all districts except Bahraich. Exports of salt which had fallen off in the previous two years rose by 9,282 maunds, but there was a decline under the chief commodities cotton goods, metals, mahua, and sugar, due partly to short crops in Nepal and higher prices. There were slight enhancements in the export duties levied by Nepal.

35—Buildings and Roads.

(For details see the annual administration report of the Public Works Department, Buildings and Roads branch, for the year ending 31st March, 1917.)

Revenue and expenditure.

195. The revenue realised during the year by the Buildings and Roads branch of the Public Works department amounted to 4·12 lakhs, of which 3·68 were provincial. The actual expenditure totalled 111·66 lakhs, of which 2·97 lakhs were for imperial works, Rs. 2,653 for famine relief, 61·35 lakhs for provincial works, 33 lakhs for excluded local funds, and 14·32 lakhs for contribution works. Expenditure was retrenched owing to war exigencies, by 20 lakhs, and improvements to important lines of communication were held in abeyance.

Imperial buildings.

196. Expenditure on imperial buildings fell from 4·17 to 1·28 lakhs, half of which was devoted to extensions of the bacteriological laboratory at Mukhtesar. The estimate of 2·84 lakhs for a similar laboratory at Bareilly was completed, but work was postponed till after the war.

Provincial buildings.

197. Work on provincial buildings was confined to those in hand. Three tahsils were completed, and the district courts at Agra and Bareilly were overhauled. Extensions of the district court at Jaunpur were undertaken. The old High Court building and bar chambers at Allahabad on the completion of the new buildings were remodelled for Rs. 33,580 and made available for almost all the departmental offices hitherto located in hired buildings. The munsif's court at Khurja was well advanced, and the new civil courts at Unao and judge's residence at Budaun were completed and brought into use. The civil courts at Bulandshahr and Cawnpore were held in abeyance for financial reasons. All but one of the educational buildings were practically completed. These comprised extensions of high schools at Muttra and Husainabad (Lucknow), and new high schools at Cawnpore and Amroha, but work on the latter was retarded by a change of plan to a tiled

roof on wooden supports in place of iron girders which were not obtainable. Extensions were made in the Dufferin and Thomason hospitals at Agra, and the infectious diseases hospital at Naini Tal was in progress. The new High Court begun in 1913 was the principal work completed in the year, and was formally opened by His Excellency the Viceroy on the 27th November, 1916. The estimate of 14·92 lakhs was exceeded by ·29 lakhs. The novel electrical cooling device has not yet proved an unqualified success. A high compliment was paid to the Government consulting architect by the fact that the design was copied *en bloc* for the new High Court at Bankipur. 12 police stations were in hand. Half were brought into use and the remainder progressed satisfactorily. A start was also made on the police offices at Lakhimpur and Basti, and work on the police barracks in Dehra Dun and Saharanpur was well advanced. The new jail at Ballia, to replace the old, owing to the erosions of the river Ganges, was pushed on vigorously in order to have it complete by June, 1917. Precautionary measures were taken below Naini Tal in connection with the slips on the Charta hill above the Brewery. A movement of 1½ feet took place as against 18 feet in the year before. Of contribution works the only buildings of importance were the hostel for the aided high school at Fatehgarh and new Dufferin hospitals at Fyzabad and Gorakhpur. The hostel at Fatehgarh was completed, and the other works were progressing satisfactorily.

Communications.

198. The total lengths of metalled and unmetalled roads maintained by the department were 7,155 and 1,476 miles respectively. The figures include 55 miles of newly added roads. Local authorities maintained 21 miles of metalled roads, and 24,238 miles of unmetalled roads. Expenditure rose from 23·74 to 23·98 lakhs, and 4 lakhs were spent on original works. A diversion was begun at Moradabad on the Meerut-Moradabad road to join an overbridge on the Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway, but the construction of a road from Saharanpur to the Jumna over the old railway bridge was curtailed to a minimum. Protective works were carried out at the bridge over the Tons in Dehra Dun. The Naini Tal Brewery cart-road diversion was practically completed and the work on the bridge over the Ballia ravine on the Ranibagh-Ranikhet road was in full progress. As a result of the extensive damage done by the rains of 1916 a sum of 1·25 lakhs was allotted for repairs to roads in the Naini Tal division, particularly the Kathgodam-Brewery road. A start was made on the important pilgrim route from Batrojkhan to Ganai via Bhikiasain, Rs. 4,159 being spent out of an estimate of 4·66 lakhs. Protective works on the Gorakhpur-Dohri Ghat-Ghazipur road were made on the Rapti near Gorakhpur and near Fyzabad on the Basti road. A start was made on the remaining portion of the Gonda-Bahraich road, and the Jianpur-Azmatgarh road was completed. 22 lakhs were spent on repairs and original works on district board roads. Original works accounted for 6·3 lakhs mostly in Budaun, Bijnor, Moradabad, Kheri, Bareilly, Pilibhit, Farrukabad, Mirzapur, and Gorakhpur. The bridges over the Isan river at Tirwa in Farrukhabad, over the Ul in Kheri, and over the Pangeli in Bareilly were completed, two comprising reinforced concrete arched ribs.

Navigation.

199. The area in which navigation works were prosecuted remained the same. 343 miles of the Ganges from Allahabad to Ballia, and 97 miles of the Gogra in Ballia and Azamgarh were maintained in a navigable condition at cost of Rs. 9,000.

Electric light and power.

200. The installation of electric lighting in Lucknow and Allahabad was entrusted to the Electric Inspector. Progress was satisfactory as regards lights and fans in offices and residences in spite of scarcity of material and losses at sea. The installations in the European civil hospital at Allahabad and the Postmaster-General's office at Lucknow were completed. The additional plant for the bacteriological laboratory at Mukhtesar was also erected and found to work satisfactorily. Work on the new High Court was approaching completion.

Sanitary works.

201. The pressure in the Sanitary Engineer's department in regard to new schemes eased off with the unfavourable financial position. 23 lakhs were spent on construction and maintenance, or much the same as last year, of which ·16 lakhs were on original works. Projects in hand rose from 130

to 182 lakhs, out of which sanction was accorded to the extent of 36 lakhs. The scarcity of plant and material was further accentuated and the rise of prices continued to cause inconvenience. The Muttra water-works were completed at a cost of 4½ lakhs, its chief feature being four strainer tube-wells, 500 feet apart, worked electrically by power derived from two 100-H. P. Diesel engines. There was considerable activity in the same direction in other large towns, and it is to be hoped that this novel method of water supply will overcome the difficulties found in some of the existing systems. Tube-wells are in hand in Fyzabad, Lucknow, and Benares, but at Aligarh and Allahabad they have been postponed for the period of the war. No decision was arrived at regarding the town of Jhansi. Difficulties were experienced at Cawnpore in training the river to the intake wells at Bhairon Ghat. Drainage operations cost 5·6 lakhs, comprising main drains and sullage farms at Allahabad and Lucknow. The lining of the Abu nala at Meerut as an anti-malarial work was not completed. Three important projects for drainage in Agra, Bareilly, and Saharanpur are practically complete.

Arboriculture. 202. Arboricultural operations included 62 miles planted and 1,625 maintained, at a cost of Rs. 77,866. The income was Rs. 40,947.

Private works. 203. In addition to the contribution works already mentioned, Rs. 2,37,779 were spent by private individuals on dharmsalas, wells, schools, etc.

General. 204. The only change in divisional charges was the closing of the temporary one, created mainly for the new High Court at Allahabad. The cadre was still further depleted by the deputation of two more engineers to military duty, so that the difficulty of exercising supervision was even more accentuated.

36—Canals.

(For details see the annual administration report of the Public Works department, Irrigation branch, for the year ending 31st March, 1917.)

Outlay and construction. 205. The capital expenditure on canals during the year was 16·9 lakhs, bringing the total capital outlay on 31st March, 1917, to 12·9 crores. Of the year's expenditure 8·9 lakhs were spent on protective works, 7·1 on productive works, and the balance on minor works. The main protective works were the Gangao dam on the Ken river which was completed, the Ghaggar canal in Mirzapur, the Majhgawan tank in Hamirpur, and the Dhasan canal. The principal productive works were the Bhimgoda headworks of the Ganges canal, and the Garai canal in Mirzapur. Minor works consisted chiefly of miscellaneous tank schemes in Bundelkhand, apart from an expenditure of Rs. 28,540 on the Rohilkhand canals. Considerable reductions in expenditure were necessitated by the policy of retrenchment.

Works proposed. 206. The submission of the Belan canal estimates was again rendered impossible by the delay of the Rewah darbar in disposing of the question of the land traversed by the canal in that State. The project of irrigating the Ken Barma duab has taken the shape of an extension of the Dhasan canal by means of a weir at Kurra estimated to cost 63 lakhs and to irrigate 63,674 acres with a return of 5·3 per cent. The estimate for a third weir on the Betwa 15 miles above the Dhukwan weir is under preparation. Another reservoir on the Ken was proposed. The Paisuni canal scheme is still delayed pending the settlement of the question of the area that will be submerged in the Baraundha State. The estimate of the Urmel canal to irrigate the Chhatarpur State and parts of Banda and Hamirpur is under preparation. The Ohan canal project in Banda was completed. The Pachwara and Aunjhar projects were kept in abeyance for want of funds. The chief productive works under consideration were, as in the previous year, the three connected Sarda canal projects, and these were described fully in the general administration report for 1914-15. The first is postponed owing to the impossibility of aligning it without traversing the Rampur State, the second is held up until the third is submitted to the Secretary of State, and as regards the third, the estimates were completed during the year.

Its cost is estimated at 656 lakhs and its return at 9 per cent. on the outlay. The Kho weir scheme in Bijnor is delayed until the question of increasing water rates in general in the district is determined.

Surveys.

207. Surveys were restricted for reasons of economy to the completion of the survey for an additional reservoir to the Dhasan canal at Kurra, and for famine projects in Bundelkhand.

Financial results.

208. The gross receipts from canals amounted to 125·8 lakhs, as against 122·5 lakhs in the previous year, and the working expenses to 38·4 as against 38·8 lakhs. The net revenue thus rose from 83·7 to 87·4 lakhs. Compared with the previous year the results show a falling off on the protective canals, but on the productive and minor canals there was an improvement. In the case of the former gross receipts declined by Rs. 59,816 owing to a well distributed rainfall in the kharif season, and a slackening of the demand for water. There was an increase of 3 lakhs in the gross revenue from productive works. As regards minor works, owing to the raising of the water rates of the Rohilkhand canals, the gross income rose by Rs. 81,624, and the net income rose by Rs. 91,815, owing to decreased working expenses. After deducting 37·5 lakhs interest from the net revenue of all classes of canals, the balance credited to the Government was 49·9 lakhs as against 44·6 lakhs in the previous year. Of this the Local Government's share was 33·4 lakhs as against 28·2 lakhs in the previous year. Under the terms of the provincial contract the Local Government retains the net revenue on major productive works and minor works, after deducting interest and indirect charges on account of major productive works. The net revenue under the latter was 67·6 lakhs or well above the figure of 55½ lakhs, any deficiency from which is made good by the Government of India. This was the fourth consecutive year in which this result was attained.

Assessments.

209. The gross revenue (canal rates, etc.) assessed fell from 127·8 to 120·5 lakhs. The decrease is due to a smaller area irrigated by the protective and productive canals consequent on timely rainfall during the kharif season. In the minor productive works there was an increase following on the enhancement of rates on the Rohilkhand canals.

Mileage of canals.

210. The total length of channels increased by 114 miles to 15,977 miles, the additions being mostly on the Ghaggar protective canal.

37—Irrigation.

Irrigated area.

211. The total area irrigated under the Public Works department fell from 3,243,986 to 2,912,091 acres. In the kharif, the season was normal, and the demand on the Ganges canal for water for cane, indigo and cotton was strong in April and May, but the supply was below requirements till the monsoon set in in June. On the Eastern Jumna canal the demand was strong and was fully met. There was little demand on the protective canals of Bundelkhand owing to the rainfall being from 30 to 50 per cent above normal. The supply of the Rohilkhand and Bijnor canals was good and a record area mostly under cane and rice was obtained. The kharif irrigated area fell from 1,236,409 to 1,111,604. There was very little damage to works from floods during the monsoon period. The rabi season was a dry one, as no rain fell in the greater part of December and January, during which months there was a strong demand and this on the whole was amply met. The new Ghaggar canal in Mirzapur irrigated 4,286 acres in the rabi for the first time. The rabi area fell from 2,007,577 to 1,800,487 acres.

Crops irrigated.

212. The total estimated value of the crops raised with the aid of canal irrigation was 16·2 crores as against 16·01 crores in 1915-16, and the average value per acre rose from Rs. 49·37 to Rs. 55·86. The chief crops irrigated were :—Sugarcane 289,791 acres, rice 189,027 acres, maize 71,847 acres, cotton 275,737 acres, millet 28,878 acres, indigo 125,824 acres, wheat 859,508 acres, barley 149,598 acres, gram 61,277 acres, and peas 122,080 acres. The area under cotton which was low in the previous year recovered slightly, but the season was again unfavourable for its growth. There was a notable increase under indigo which was grown over a larger area than usual owing to high prices as the result of the war. The area under wheat was

higher than in the past ten years, and efforts were made to increase it particularly by the remission of rates on irrigation carried out after the 15th of November, and in this way 3,821 additional acres were secured.

CHAPTER V.—REVENUE AND FINANCE.

(a) IMPERIAL REVENUE AND FINANCE.

38—Gross Revenue.

(For details see the accounts for the year 1916-17, *and the tables in Part IV (a) and (b)—Statistics of British India.)*

213. The imperial share of the gross revenue realised amounted to Rs. 4,91,31,036 as compared with Rs. 4,90,08,149 in the year 1915-16.

39—Land Revenue.

214. The gross land revenue realised was Rs. 6,45,44,156, of which the imperial share was Rs. 3,88,77,998. The corresponding figures for the previous year were Rs. 6,73,87,924 and Rs. 4,06,93,813 respectively.

40—Canal Revenue.

215. The gross direct revenue accruing from canals rose from Rs. 1,02,59,543 in 1915-16 to Rs. 1,04,79,385.

41—Excise.

(For details see the Annual Report on the Administration of Excise for the year ending 31*st March,* 1917, *and the tables under the head "Excise," Part IV (b)—Statistics of British India.)*

Receipts. 216. From the revenue point of view the year was a record one, and though consumption increased as the result of returning prosperity, yet it remained with one exception below the figures of some of the previous years. There were partial or general increases of duty coupled with reductions in the number of shops, so that the policy of extracting the maximum of revenue from the minimum of consumption was continued. Total receipts rose by 9 per cent. from 120·83 to 131·82 lakhs, principally under duty from foreign spirit, country spirit, and hemp drugs. One quarter of the net income from excise receipts is credited to the imperial revenues.

Collections. 217. As much as 99·3 per cent. of the total demand was collected, viz., 132 39 out of 133·3 lakhs. The outstandings included sums due from a defunct brewery in Mussoorie, and former drugs contractors of Mainpuri, Bareilly, and Benares, against whom suitable steps have been taken.

Country spirit. 218. The total receipts from country spirit rose by 10 per cent. from 73·9 to 81·2 lakhs. In the distillery area consumption increased by 19·3 per cent. from 1,220,000 to 1,455,000 gallons. There was little change in the incidence of duty per proof gallon, which had been continually rising hitherto, but the incidence of licence fees fell with the growth of consumption from Rs. 2-3-5 to Re. 1-12-1 per proof gallon. On the whole two-thirds of the revenue in this area was derived from duty, and one-third from licence fees. The rise of consumption was particularly marked in the cities of Cawnpore and Lucknow, in the former owing to increased war earnings of operatives at the mills, and in the latter owing to the money put into the pockets of certain classes by visitors to the various political and other conferences during the Christmas week. Receipts from duty rose by 18·6 per cent. from 45·45 to 53·92 lakhs, a record figure, as against a consumption which was exceeded in three of the previous years. Duty was enhanced in three towns and two districts. There was no change in private or Government distilleries, but three disused Government buildings were disposed of. Four out of the fourteen new stills ordered from Scotland were not delivered owing to the war. One hundred and thirteen shops were closed in the distillery area, their number falling to 4,077. An experiment was

tried with success in the Muzaffarnagar district, where the auction of licences was replaced by permanent licences at fixed rates, or rather surcharges of duty per gallon, varying with groups of shops. The experience gained was valuable for future development. With different rates of surcharge there was danger of smuggling from the area of one group to that of another with a higher rate, but this was guarded against by issuing spirit of different colours, and the appointment of an extra inspector. Although there was a decrease of revenue, there was also a decrease of consumption, and the main object of the change, to secure permanent and honest vendors of sound financial position selling a sound article, with no desire to push sales to meet licence fees bid for at auction, was attained.

Contract supply system.

219. The contract supply system was introduced into three districts Agra, Mainpuri and Etawah.

Outstill areas.

220. Licence fees in the outstill area increased from Rs. 1,56,011 to Rs. 1,67,743. An outlying part of the Etawah district was transferred from this area to the distillery area, and further conversions in Allahabad and Mirzapur were decided upon.

Hemp drugs.

221. Licence fees on hemp drugs fell by 16 per cent. from 17·3 to 14·53 lakhs, as the result of substantial increases of duty from 33 per cent. upwards. Notwithstanding this loss of income receipts on the whole rose from 25·76 to 27·11 lakhs. The consumption of charas remained stationary, but in other drugs there was an increase: ganja which is gaining popularity in the eastern districts showed a rise from 20,619 to 23,157 seers, and bhang from 203,583 to 214,528 seers.

Opium.

222. The total revenue from opium fell by 8 per cent. from 13·44 to 12·40 lakhs. The fall was due to the increase in the price paid to the cultivator. There were increases of consumption and license fees. Licence fees rose by 1·63 per cent. from 4·49 to 4·56 lakhs, while consumption rose by 4·2 per cent. from 57,718 to 60,153 seers: but the previous year's figures of consumption were abnormally low, and the present figures were the next lowest of the decade. Smuggling into high duty areas outside the province continues, and efforts made to check it in one locality lead to smuggling from another. There are signs that the measures taken are tending to transfer smuggling to Rajputana and Central India. As is well known, the problem is complicated by the growth of poppy, and the danger of embezzlement by the cultivators: any considerable increase in duty to approximate to the high rates outside the provinces would lead to smuggling direct from the cultivators. Restriction of issues was successful in checking smuggling from the areas dealt with, viz., five districts, and parts of ten others, and stricter methods somewhat similar to those enforced experimentally in Cawnpore City are in contemplation, i.e. restriction of issues, selection of vendors and fixed license fees per ser.

Tari and sendhi.

223. Licence fees of tari, which had been rising steadily in the nine preceding years, remained stationary at 3·47 lakhs. A large decrease of Rs. 3,000 in Gorakhpur is ascribed to the removal of shops from roadside sites. The number of shops fell from 2,851 to 2,749.

Foreign liquor.

224. Excluding duty derived from excisable articles exported to Native States and foreign countries, the total receipts rose from 2·8 to 4·3 lakhs, chiefly as the result of discontinued imports of beer and rum from Germany and England, and enhancements of duty. The issues of beer from local breweries increased from 45,330 to 125,261 gallons, chiefly from the Ranikhet Brewery: the issues of spirit rose from 69,914 to 144,104 gallons chiefly from the Rosa distillery. Rectified spirits issued increased from 3,607 to 4,524 gallons, and denatured spirits from 10,853 to 14,562 gallons. Free issues of rum to troops outside India rose from 32,269 to 85,463 gallons, and issues to troops in India at Rs. 5 duty per gallon from 32,269 to 35,694 gallons, corresponding with the movements of troops. Munition factories were supplied duty free with 4,202 gallons of rectified spirit. Retail sales of beer amounted to 57,581 gallons, of spirit to 42,749 gallons, and of wines to 24,733 gallons. These figures indicate a large decrease in the consumption of been and spirits but it is believed that the returns furnished by the licensees were inaccurate and they do not tally with the inferences to

be drawn from the wholesale figures. Retail licences fell from 161 to 150 and licence fees by 5·81 per cent. from Rs. 56,887 to Rs. 53,582 which is lower than the figure in any of the ten previous years. High prices were responsible for the reduction in licence fees and licences. With regard to the large consumption of beer in 1915 and 1916, in Dehra Dun, the explanation is the large number of European troops now stationed in the hills during the leave season from Mesopotamia. Under wholesale licences there was an increase in the sales of beer, but the previous year's figure was abnormally low, and that of the current year appears normal. Dehra Dun, Meerut, Bareilly, Almora and Lucknow show the largest increases.

Prosecutions.

225. The total number of cases filed in court under the Excise Act fell from 1,704 to 1,293. Cases of illicit distillation declined from 315 to 105, as the result of the failure of the mahua crop. Stricter supervision in Sultanpur disclosed a greater number of such cases. Cases of cocaine smuggling declined from 110 to 50 as the result of stoppage of supplies from Germany and Austria, but four cases of Japanese cocaine were dsicovered. Two cases were brought to light of the possession of anaesthesin, the price of which is Rs. 300 an ounce. The practice of adulteration with antipyrine and other substances was discovered. Lucknow, Benares, Allahabad, Gorakhpur and Saharanpur are the chief centres of cocaine consumption. Convictions for drunkenness fell slightly from 1,907 to 1,899, standing at the rate of ·4 per 10,000 of the population. The corresponding figures for cities show that Cawnpore with 12·1 and Benares with 11·8 head the list, while Allahabad has fallen from 15·4 to 8·4. Opium cases rose from 439 to 447.

General.

226. Non-official advisory committees were established in all municipalities, replacing those formerly presided over by the district officer. Their recommendations as to location and closing of shops were accepted in 44 out of 62 cases disposed of. So far they have proved a success, but the extension of their powers will have to be made with due regard to the interests of the moderate consumer. Half-yearly conferences of officers of the Revenue, Police, and Excise departments were held in most districts. The relations of Assistant Commissioners of Excise with District Officers were revised and put on a sound basis. It was recognised that with the increase of departmental officers and the extension of their duties, the interest of Collectors in excise matters might decline. The responsibility of the Collector for the excise administration of the district was re-affirmed, and provision was made for supplying him with information and for his directing the Assistant Commissioner to points requiring his attention during his stay in the district. As compared with the relations of the District Officer to the police, the only difference is that the departmental excise officer controls other districts, while the departmental police officer's jurisdiction is conterminous with that of the District Officer. Temperance societies continued to do good work in Naini Tal, Mussoorie, and Benares, while others were in existence in eight other districts. The All-India Temperance Conference met at Lucknow in December, 1916, and the United Provinces Temperance Council did some practical work. In the Allahabad district a temperance movement among the Pasis was reported.

42—Stamps.

(For details see the annual reports on the stamp returns for the year ending 31st March, 1917. and the tables under the head "Stamp," Part IV(b)—Statistics of British India.)

Receipts and charges.

227. The gross receipts under the Stamp and Court Fees Acts continued to rise, from 125·14 to 129·93 lakhs, a record figure, and charges from 3·02 to 3·04 lakhs. One-fifth of the income was under stamps and four-fifths from court fees. The increase in receipts is mostly under the head of court fees and coincides with the general rise in litigation. The Imperial share of the receipts and charges under the head of stamps is one-half.

Judicial stamps.

228. The gross income from judicial stamps showed a further increase from 99 to 103·7 lakhs, a record figure, though there was a fall in the sale of plain water-marked paper, which is tending to go out of use.

229. The value of non-judicial stamps sold during the year continued to rise, from 26·11 to 26·25 lakhs, nearly every head showing an increase. The figure is about normal. The prosperous districts generally showed the largest increases, chiefly as the result of improvement of trade, as the evil effects of the 1913-14 scarcity effaced themselves while in the less prosperous districts its effects were shown by transfers of land, as indebtedness came to a head during the year. There was a rise in adhesive stamps affixed in the Board's office in the registers of hirers of cane presses, but other stamps under this head continued to decline, chiefly as the result of previous bank failures. Non-judicial stamps.

230. Prosecutions rose from 864 to 1,048. Cases of insufficiently stamped or unstamped documents rose from 2,346 to 2,668, and the sum realised in duty or penalty fell from Rs. 34,258 to Rs. 26,838. Prosecutions.

43—Assessed Taxes.

(For details see the Annual Income Tax Returns of the province for the year ending 31st March, 1917, and the tables under the head "Income Tax," Part V (b)—Statistics of British India.)

231. Income-tax is the only directly assessed tax in the provinces. The net collections during the year rose from 27·92 to 42·33 lakhs. Apart from the recovery in trade and agriculture, the proceeds of the tax were increased mainly by the imposition of higher rates ranging from one anna in the rupee on incomes exceeding Rs. 25,000 to 4 pies on the lowest incomes, as against 5 and 4 pies in previous years. It was calculated that the enhancement of rates produced 12 lakhs out of the 14 lakhs increase. Certain trades suffered and others benefited by the war. Hide merchants suffered, for instance, from the embargo on exports, and similarly there was a difficulty in railway transport and shipping, while contractors felt the retrenchment of war budgets. These and other drawbacks were counterbalanced by the large demands for certain classes of manufactured articles by the Military department and by the rise in prices generally, more particularly in the cloth and metal markets. As regards salaries it was noticed that while Government servants automatically paid the increased rates, there was a leakage in the case of private employees. The total demand was 35·39 lakhs of which 35·28 lakhs were collected as against 23·19 and 23·14 lakhs in the previous year. Appeals and objections rose from 8,411 to 9,122, and the percentage of wholly unsuccessful appeals and objections rose from 67·81 to 68·79. Writs of demand and other coercive processes aggregated 1,965 and 7,098 as against 2,817 and 6,928 in the preceding year. The expenditure incurred in assessment and collection rose from Rs. 1,949 to Rs. 2,092. The proposal to appoint a whole time staff of one Deputy Collector per division could not be carried out owing to the depletion of the ordinary staff during the war. Half of the proceeds of the tax after deducting cost of collection is contributed to Imperial revenues. Income-tax.

44—Any other taxes levied for Imperial purposes.

232. The yield from customs, the whole of which is credited to the Imperial Exchequer was Rs. 2,22,093 as compared with Rs. 1,82,296 in the previous year. Excise duty on cotton manufactures is the only customs duty levied in these provinces.

45—Forests.

233. The receipts from forests are no longer shared between the Imperial and Provincial Revenues, but credited entirely to the latter.

46—Provincial Revenues.

For details see the Government resolution on the provincial revenues of 1916-1917.

234. The budget of 1916-17 was the second war budget, and like its predecessor was exceeded on the revenue side, and not worked up to on the Financial position

expenditure side: the finances of the province, therefore, improved in conformity with the policy of husbanding the resources of the country in war time, and the balance in hand rose from 155·35 to 192·38 lakhs. The general results of the year's transactions as compared with those of the previous year are set forth in the table below:—

	1915-16. Lakhs.	1916-17. Lakhs.	Difference Lakhs.
Opening balance	1,45·07	1,55·35	+10·28
Receipts	6,90·56	7,01·90	+11·34
Charges	6,80·28	6,64·87	−15·41
Closing balance	1,55·35	1,92·38	+37·03

The closing balance of 192·38 lakhs includes 53·64 lakhs on account of unspent portions of imperial grants for education, sanitation, and general administration. The real closing balance was therefore 138·74 lakhs or well above the prescribed minimum of 20 lakhs.

No change was made in the terms of the provincial settlement with the Government of India. The changes due to the abolition of the famine insurance scheme did not have effect within the year. The only modification in the form of the accounts was the splitting up of the medical head into medical and sanitation.

Receipts.

235. The larger variations in income are tabulated below:—

	Increase. Lakhs.	Decrease. Lakhs.
Land Revenue	...	10·28
Transfers from imperial to provincial ...	...	6·53
Interest	...	6·16
Stamps	2·39	
Excise	9·01	
Income tax	7·22	
Forests	13·02	
Irrigation	2·82	

The decrease under land revenue was due to larger collections of arrears during 1915-16, and to larger remissions and suspensions necessitated by heavy floods in the Benares division. Smaller realisations from loans to agriculturalists and miscellaneous advances account for the decrease under interest. The decrease under transfers from imperial to provincial were due to a special grant of 1·2 lakh in the previous year for city improvements in Lucknow, refund of the imperial grant of 2·28 lakhs for the scheme of substituting chaukidars for goraits in Gorakhpur, that was unavoidably postponed, and an increase of 4·3 lakhs on account of income tax and duty on locally manufactured beer and foreign spirits, payable to the Imperial Government though there were increases in other heads, such as half a lakh for the Hindu University, etc. The continued growth of litigation accounted for the increase in stamps, increased rates of duty for that under excise, as well as duty on an increased output of foreign liquors manufactured to meet the cessation of imports of these articles, though there was a loss under opium due to the increase in the cost price paid to the opium department. The substantial increase under forests was due to the further developement of the timber business in order to cope with the demands of the trade and military requirements, and there was an improvement in the resin and turpentine manufacture, which was pushed to secure the eastern markets. The increase under irrigation was due to the greater demand for canal water.

Expenditure.

236. The more important variations in provincial expenditure are summarised below:—

	Increase. Lakhs.	Decrease. Lakhs.
Forests	1·70	...
Education	1·48	...
Superannuation charges	1·49	...
Interest	...	2·26
Law and Justice	...	2·49
Police	...	2·83
Irrigation	...	2·33
Civil works	...	7·29

Superannuation charges continued to grow, and larger expenditure on the Forest department was inevitable, but the increase of 7 per cent. in charges was more than balanced by the increase of 35 per cent. under income. The increase under education includes a larger grant to the Hindu University, entertainment of expert instructors in the industries branch, cost of industrial and technical schools, and regrading staff in ordinary schools. Under interest on ordinary debt the fall was the effect of smaller outstandings brought forward from the previous year, and reduced advances, while a reduction in the rate of interest chargeable and curtailment of outlay from capital explain a decrease of 1·37 lakhs in interest charges under irrigation. Although there were increases in Land Revenue establishments affected by the Pike scheme and in settlement establishments, there was a lessened expenditure for grain compensation allowance, partition and other establishment, and salaries of district officers due to deputations to military duty. Under law and justice less was spent on salaries for the same reason, as well as under fees paid to counsel in criminal cases, but more was expended on salaries of subordinate judicial officers, and in other ways. Police charges increased by 1·64 lakhs under pay of constables, and decreased by ·81 on account of the abolition of road chaukidars, but there were savings under grain compensation allowances, railway warrants, superintendence and salaries, hospitals, Criminal Intelligence department and railway police. The decrease under civil works was attributable to an extensive issue of stores accounting for 4·7 lakhs, retrenchment on buildings ·9 lakh, and ·5 on tools and plant.

Provincial budget.

237. The general results of the year's transactions as compared with the original budget estimates were as follows:—

	Budget Lakhs.	Accounts. Lakhs.	Difference. Lakhs.
Opening balance... ...	1,43·73	1,55·35	+11·62
Receipts	6,76·98	7,01·90	+24·92
Charges	6,80·97	6,64·87	—16·10
Balance	1,39·74	1,92·38	+52·64

The increase in the opening balance was due to large and unexpected curtailments in expenditure and an improvement in land revenue collections in the previous year. The more important variations responsible for improvements in receipts were under stamps, excise, income tax, forests, and irrigation, amounting to 1·2, 7·66, 2·83, 10·08, and 1·39 lakhs respectively. The only important decrease was under land revenue, 1·29 lakhs. There was also a rise of 1·94 lakhs in assignments from imperial to provincial, due to receipt of grants totalling 2·91 lakhs after the budget was framed, also 1·31 lakhs on account of the reduction of the duty on rum issued to troops, and the refund to imperial of 2·28 lakhs on account of chaukidars in Gorakhpur already mentioned. The principal increase was under the four heads of stamps, income tax, excise and forests aggregating 21·77 out of 27·46 lakhs total increase. On the expenditure side the only large excess was 3·33 lakhs under Public works, but this was really nominal and due largely to a sum of 2·76 lakhs transferred from the lump provision on account of the unabsorbed balance of the imperial educational grants, and utilised on school buildings. There was an excess of 1·81 lakh to meet the damage caused by floods and heavy rain during the autumn to roads, and of ·51 lakh due to the readjustment of the provincial share of establishment charges consequent on the reduction of imperial works expenditure. These increases were largely counterbalanced by diminished expenditure on tools and plant, miscellaneous public improvements, etc. The main decreases were under land revenue 3·42 lakhs, forests 1·87, law and justice 1·4, education 2·28, medical and sanitation 1·5, miscellaneous 3·36. That under land revenue, as was explained above, was due to deputation of officers to military duty, and also to a very partial utilisation of the lump provision for the minimum salaries of civil servants and the improvement of the cadre of deputy collectors. A larger number of probationary deputy collectors failed to qualify for promotion than was anticipated. There was a redistribution of charges under the Pike scheme

which accounted for ·53 lakh, and there were savings in the provision for contingencies, partition establishment, survey, settlement and kanungo establishment. The savings under forests were due to a reduction under the head of timber, owing to the non-realisation of the sleeper scheme, the cessation of departmental operations, postponement of surveys and building operations, etc., counterbalanced by increased payments including the purchase of motor lorries for the turpentine industry and fuel operations for troops in Lansdowne. Under law and justice the same causes operated as regards salaries as given under the head of land revenue, but there were minor increases under clerical staff following on the redistribution of charges under the Pike scheme, the appointment of an officer on special duty in connection with new legislation, fees paid to counsel engaged in criminal cases, and a higher expenditure in Oudh on privilege leave allowances. The reduction in education was largely nominal owing to the transfer of 2·76 lakhs to public works out of the imperial grants mentioned above. This was partially balanced by an imperial grant of one lakh for the Hindu University and an increase in salaries. There were further smaller savings under establishment for aided schools, scholarships, and aid to indigenous industries. Under Medical and Sanitation there was a net decrease of 1·5 lakh, mostly made up of 1·93 lakh and ·54 in the grants for sanitary improvement and plague respectively, counterbalanced by one lakh increase in the shape of a grant from the Government of India for the improvement of the pilgrim route to Badrinath and Kedarnath. The reduction under miscellaneous was due mainly to the non-utilisation of the lump provision of 3·5 lakhs for indirect famine expenditure. There were smaller savings under other heads: interest fell by ·75 lakh owing to the fact that outstandings at the beginning of the year in the provincial loan account with the Government of India were below expectations, recoveries being greater and fresh loans less: under jails dietary charges with the fall in prices declined by 1·6 lakh, but bedding, clothing, and raw materials for the jail factories were dearer and more was spent on criminal tribes, bringing the net saving to ·87 lakh: under police the saving was due to the abolition of road chaukidars, salaries of officers deputed to military duties, short supplies of arms and accoutrements from the military department, and transfers of grants for petty construction and repairs to Public Works, but there was an excess of 1·02 lakh under pay of constabulary, grain compensation, railway warrants, etc., so that the net saving was ·89 lakh: under irrigation there was a decrease of ·96 lakh in major works, owing to the non-utilisation of ·75 lakh out of the Chief Engineer's reserve, as well as a saving of ·21 in repairs to the Lower Ganges canal, and of 2·03 under interest on debt, owing to the reduction in the rate of interest. There were also petty savings under agriculture, stationery, and printing.

47—Local Revenues.

(For details see the accounts of the excluded local funds published in the Government Gazette of the 5th January, 1918, and the annual report on the working on the district boards for the year ending 31st March, 1917.)

238. The opening balance of excluded local funds was 84·08 lakhs. Receipts amounted to 133·15 lakhs, and expenditure to 131·84 lakhs, as compared with 129·56 and 132·99 lakhs respectively in 1915·16, leaving a closing balance of 85·39 lakhs. Each class of fund was solvent. The finances of the district boards, which form by far the most important item have been dealt with in detail in Chapter 3 of this report. The other chief heads were the cantonment, town, and bazar, medical, and charitable and educational funds. The cantonment fund opened with a balance of 3·13 lakhs, received 10·8 lakhs, and expended 10·57 lakhs. The corresponding figures for the town and bazar funds were 2·14, 5·51 and 5·1 lakhs, respectively. Medical and charitable funds received 3 lakhs during the year and expended 3·65 lakhs, leaving a closing balance of ·83 lakhs. The educational funds consisted of the Lyall Collegiate School fund (Gonda), and the Colvin Institute fund (Sitapur). The totals for their combined opening balances,

receipts and charges were Rs. 3,683, Rs. 17,400, and Rs. 18,899 respectively. The number of towns under the operation of Act II of 1914 remained unchanged at 257.

48—Municipal Fund.

(For details see the annual review of municipal administration for the year ending 31st March, 1917.)

239. The aggregate balance of the municipalities of the province was 34·73 lakhs at the commencement of the previous year. Receipts and expenditure during the year, including loans and deposits, totalled 106·23 and 101·50 lakhs respectively, as against 105·01 and 103·91 lakhs respectively in the previous year. The closing balance was thus 38·12 lakhs. The income of the 48 notified areas of the province, excluding the opening balance, increased from 3·68 to 3·75 lakhs, and their expenditure fell from 3·77 to 3·63 lakhs. Their closing balances rose from 1·66 to 1·77 lakh.

CHAPTER VI.—VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICES.

49—Detail of census.

(See under "Details of the last census." Chapter 1 of the report for 1911.)

50—Births and deaths.

(For details see the annual report of the Sanitary Commissioner for the year ending 31st December, 1916, and the tables under the head "Vital Statistics," Part V—Statistics of British India.)

240. The total births registered during the year were 2,017,756 against 2,036,121 in the preceding year, and the birth-rate thus fell from 43·48 to 43·09, the average for the last quinquennium being 45·06. There was a continuous fall in the monthly rate from February to June, followed by a rise up to the highest point in October, a slight fall in November, and a slight rise in December. The proportion of male to female births during the year was 108·61 to 100, or practically the same as in the previous six years. The provincial birth-rate exceeded the death-rate by 13·59 as compared with 13·44 in 1915. The excess was general except in Dehra Dun, Naini Tal and Pilibhit: in the two former the birth rates were low owing to the effects of chronic malaria on fertility, and in the two latter the death-rates were high on account of fever, and to a certain extent cholera. Of districts with high birth-rates, Hamirpur stands first with 58·20, followed by Jhansi 55·66, Jalaun 55·07, Moradabad 51·02, and Bijnor 50·19. Dehra Dun and Naini Tal, with their fluctuating population, again had the lowest birth-rates, viz., 24·53 and 26·12 respectively. While the provincial birth-rate has been falling continuously from 1913, that of municipal areas has been rising steadily, births totalling during the year 132,666 or 45·15, the highest on record, as against 131,600 in 1915. Of the 84 municipalities, Firozabad (Agra) stands first with 77·74 followed by Kasganj (Etah) 63·55, Mau (Jhansi) 60·34, Ujhani (Budaun) 58·86, Budaun 57·81, Amroha (Moradabad) 57·46, and Kandhla (Muzaffarnagar) 56·95. The municipalities with low birth-rates were Mussoorie 10·84, and Naini Tal 19·80, where the population fluctuates and conditions are abnormal. The low birth-rate of Banda, 23·6, appears to be due to defective registration. Excess of births over deaths in municipalities rose from 3·15 to 8·61, and 71 out of 84 returned excesses. Of 47 notified areas, only 21 had rates exceeding the provincial average. The births rose from 14,300 to 14,692, and the birth-rate from 42·82 to 43·90. Births.

241. Deaths decreased slightly, from 1,406,743 to 1,381,299, and the death-rate from 30·04 to 29·50. The highest mortality occurred in Pilibhit, 50·73, followed by Hamirpur 47·55, Naini Tal 44·62, Bijnor 43·68, and Shahjahanpur 43·36. The causes of high mortality in Pilibhit and Naini Tal have been given in the preceding paragraph. In Hamirpur the high mortality was due chiefly to the exceptional prevalence of Deaths.

respiratory diseases and fever, and in Bijnor and Shahjahanpur to cholera and fever. The number of deaths in municipal towns fell from 122,337 to 107,353, and the death-rate from 41·64 to 36·54. The mortality was most marked in Pilibhit 66·19, Najibabad 61·70, Firozabad 56·37, Kalpi 53·75 and Bisalpur 51·56. In Pilibhit the high mortality was due to a severe outbreak of fever, dysentery, and diarrhoea, etc. with possibly plague. In Najibabad it was due to plague, fever, dysentery, diarrhoea, etc., in Firozabad to fever and other causes, in Kalpi to fever and respiratory diseases, and in Bisalpur to cholera and fever. Thirteen municipalities exhibited excess of deaths over births: the greatest excess was in Pilibhit 13·26, Bisalpur (Pilibhit) 12·50, Najibabad (Bijnor) 8·72, Hardwar Union (Saharanpur) 7·18, and Kashipur (Naini Tal) 7·12. In notified areas deaths fell from 11,349 to 10,650, and the death-rate from 33·99 to 31·82. The monthly provincial death-rate fell slightly in February, rising in March and April, and then falling to the lowest point in July. There was a sharp rise in August, and a slow increase to the end of the year, when the death-rate was highest. Omitting epidemics, the unhealthiest months were September, November and December. Deaths among males were 720,097, and among females 661,202, the corresponding death-rates being 29·43 and 29·57 as against 29·95 and 30·15 in 1915. Although the mortality was higher among males, yet between the ages of 10 and 30 the figures were higher for females. The same phenomenon was noticed in the preceding year. It is clear that these ages correspond roughly with the period in which females are confined to their houses with family cares and lead an unhealthy life, apart from the dangers of child-birth. Infantile mortality increased from 205·1 to 209·7, but was below the average of the previous quinquennium, and also of that for the last 15 years. The chief causes ascribed were fever and tetanus, but there are considerable vagaries in individual localities, which suggest incorrect diagnosis. Much progress was made in counter-measures, such as distributing pamphlets, training midwives, establishing dairies, and treatment by travelling dispensaries. Naini Tal again heads the list of districts with high infantile mortality with 348·60, followed by Farrukhabad 279·16, Pilibhit 268·06, Shahjahanpur 266·65, and Bareilly 262·40. In all of these the general mortality was high. Among municipalities the worst record was in Kalpi (Jalaun) 356·88, followed by Mau (Jhansi) 356·41, Farrukhabad cum-Fatehgarh 343·58, Konch (Jalaun) 334·46, Bela (Partabgarh) 332·05 and Etawah 331·37. Mau and Farrukhabad showed no improvement on last year. The average municipal rate fell from 277·76 to 259·24.

Registration of vital statistics.

242. Deputy Sanitary Commissioners tested 40,695 birth and death entries as against 8,635 in 1915: the percentages of omissions discovered in the birth and death entries were 1·83 and ·48 respectively. Entries tested by local authorities rose from 508,325 to 594,201: the percentage of omissions discovered by them were 2·95 and 2·07 in birth and death registration, as against 3·39 and 2·42 in 1915. The vaccination staff tested 945,394 entries, an increase of 141,369 on the previous year, and the percentage of omissions detected rose from ·28 to ·42 for births, and from ·14 to ·24 for deaths. The number of persons fined for neglect in complying with the registration rules fell from 2,992 to 2,166.

Cholera.

243. The cholera mortality fell from 90,508 to 33,300, and the death-rate to ·71 as compared with the quinquennial death-rate of 1·36. The minimum mortality occurred in February, and rose sharply in April and May, in which months only eight districts were free from the disease. There was a slight fall in June, but in July and August a further rise occurred, the highest figure being recorded in the latter month, and only one district was free. It fell steadily from September to December. Dehra Dun, Garhwal, and Jalaun were the worst sufferers, followed by Pilibhit, Bijnor, and Almora. Mainpuri, Etawah, Etah, and Farrukhabad were practically free throughout the year. The highest rates for towns were in Sherkot (Bijnor) 8·18, Kalpi (Jalaun) 5·96, Bisalpur (Pilibhit) 5·65, and Sitapur 4·28. The cholera scheme for 20 districts again did not prove itself a success, partly as the result of working through patwaris, and partly owing to the scarcity of disinfectants and of suitable receptacles for them. It

was found that bleach deteriorated in tins, and glass bottles were not available, a difficulty which has since been solved.

244. The death-rate from small-pox fell from ·05 to ·03, the quinquennial average being ·14. Of the 1,515 deaths 547 occurred among infants, and 713 among children from one to ten years of age, as against 801 and 1,034 in 1915. The mortality was highest in June and lowest in November. Four districts, Muttra, Etawah, Hamirpur, and Sitapur were quite free of the disease, as well as 49 out of 93 towns. Firozabad (Agra), Budaun, Ramnagar (Benares), Mau (Azamgarh), and Ghaziabad (Meerut) had the highest death-rates. Small-pox.

245. There was a steady decline in plague deaths from 58,128 to 49,368, and in the death-rate from 1·24 to 1·05: the quinquennial average was 3·06. The maximum mortality occurred as usual in March, with 16,440 deaths, and the minimum in June. From October onwards there was the usual winter rise. In seven districts there were no deaths, and in eight others less than six. Ballia had the highest death-rate 8·80, followed by Ghazipur 7·44 and Azamgarh 4·23, maintaining thus the order of the previous year. Out of 93 towns 50 were entirely free and in 21 others the deaths did not exceed 10. The worst sufferers were Mubarakpur (Azamgarh) with a plague death-rate of 15·60, Balrampur (Gonda) 12·05, Gaura Barhaj (Gorakhpur) 11·63, Gonda 11·22, Ballia 7·49, Najibabad (Bijnor) 7·31, Mau (Azamgarh) 7·16, and Ghazipur 6·00. The number of inoculations fell from 45,561 to 44,680, of which 32,965 were performed by the 87 travelling dispensaries, chiefly in Ballia and the neighbouring districts. Plague.

246. Deaths reported as "fever" increased from 957,299 to 997,496, and the death-rate rose from 20·44 to 21·30. The quinquennial average was 23·07. With four exceptions, including 1915, this was the lowest figure for 36 years. For the first three months there was a continuous fall, followed by a rise till June and July, when there was another fall, but the usual autumnal rise began in August and reached its maximum in December. The curious feature of this and the preceding year was the fact that in previous years the highest point was in May. The highest death-rates were in Pilibhit 41·54, Naini Tal 39·48, Bareilly 37·34, and Shahjahanpur 34·31. The mortality was lowest in Ballia, Fatehpur, Jaunpur, and Partabgarh. Of the towns Sherkot (Bijnor) with 48·00 heads the list, followed by Bisalpur (Pilibhit) 40·84, Pilibhit 39·82, Deoband 37·50, Chandausi 29·25, and Khurja 29·03. The least mortality was in Hapur (Meerut), Gangoh (Saharanpur), Meerut and Allahabad. As regards anti-malarial measures, the provincial and divisional committees were abolished, and their duties were handed over to the Sanitary Board. Malarial investigations were conducted by two assistant malaria officers under the supervision of the Sanitary Commissioner. Besides these investigations, malaria exhibits were shown, lectures and magic-lantern demonstrations given, and leaflets distributed at the various fairs and exhibitions. Progress was made with the special anti-malarial measures in the towns of Nagina, Meerut, Saharanpur, and Kosi, and in a small scheme at Bhim Tal. School quininisation was carried out in 29 districts, in 18 of which Government aid was given. Prophylactic doses were given to 145,688 scholars and teachers. Quinine was administered at Government expense to the inmates of the Salvation Army settlements, police, prisoners, and jail staffs. Various enquiries were in progress. It was found that the anti-malarial measures at Nagina had reduced the splenic index from 79 per cent. in 1910 to 9·3 per cent. in 1916. The number of rupee packets of quinine sold fell from 7,124 to 6,267. Twenty-five cases of enteric and two of paratyphoid were reported from Naini Tal. Relapsing fever, a disease caused by bed-bugs and lice, was reported from the towns of Shahjahanpur, Tilhar, and Bareilly. In the previous year the Moradabad and Budaun districts were so infected. It is probable that the high fever mortality in Rohilkhand is due to an epidemic of this disease which reaches its height in the cold weather. Kala Azar, due to similar causes, was detected in Bara Banki. Fever.

247. Dysentery and diarrhoea accounted for 17,731 deaths as against 19,477 in 1915, corresponding to death-rates of ·38 and ·41. The quinquennial average was ·39. The highest mortality was in August, and Dysentery, diarrhoea, and respiratory diseases.

the lowest in February. The highest death-rates were, as usual, in Garhwal 7·53 and Almora 3·31. Mortality in towns was greater than in rural tracts, especially in Hapur (Meerut) 7·66, Najibabad (Bijnor) 6·45, Rath (Hamirpur) 6·29, Chandpur (Bijnor) 6·00 and Ballia 5·81. Respiratory diseases were responsible for 25,963 deaths as compared with 24,236 in 1915, the death-rates being ·55 and ·52 and the quinquennial average ·48. Judging by the returns of medical practitioners, the death-rate was actually higher. The highest mortality was in December, and the lowest in June. Hamirpur as usual headed the list with a death-rate of 13·46, followed by Lucknow 2·87, Almora 1·70, Dehra Dun 1·51, Benares 1·40, Jalaun 1·28, and Garhwal 1·01. Of the towns Konch (Jalaun) returned the highest death-rate with 20·33, followed by Rath (Hamirpur) 14·26, Fyzabad-Ajudhia 14·08, Kalpi (Jalaun) 13·63, and Mahoba (Hamirpur) 13·34. Mortality was much higher in towns than in rural tracts.

Injuries.

248. Deaths from injuries fell from 27,968 to 27,149, suicides from 2,463 to 2,219 three quarters of the latter being females. Hardoi as usual stands first with 117 suicides, followed by Farrukhabad 112, Shahjahanpur 101, Meerut 98, and Azamgarh 97. Snakes and wild beasts killed 6,921 persons as against 7,000 in 1915, while deaths from rabies increased from 280 to 286.

Deaths from all other causes.

249. Deaths from all other causes increased from 226,823 to 228,777. There was an increase of 3,476 deaths from measles.

51—Emigration and Immigration.

(For details see the annual report on the working in the United Provinces of the Assam Labour and Emigration Act, VI of 1901, *for the year ending the* 30*th of June,* 1917, *the annual report on Emigration from the Port of Calcutta to British and Foreign Colonies for* 1916, *and the tables under the head "Emigration," Part V—Statistics of British India.)*

Foreign emigration.

250. Of the 4,932 emigrants registered at the port of Calcutta during 1916 for the colonies of Demarara, Trinided, and Fiji, 4,225 or 85·66 per cent. were recruited in the United Provinces as compared with 5,975 and 90·71 in the previous year. Classified according to birth-place 84·65 per cent. came from these provinces. Cawnpore was again the district supplying the greatest number, followed by Basti, Fyzabad, Lucknow, and Gorakhpur, but judging by birth-place Basti was again first with 894, followed by Gonda 389, Fyzabad 294, and Gorakhpur, 279. Of the 2,175 emigrants who returned to all parts of India, 23·63 per cent. brought back savings, which averaged Rs. 225 per head, as compared with 9·7 per cent. and Rs. 184 in the previous year. There was an increase in remittances from residents, but as far as could be ascertained, a decline in their savings owing to the war.

Inland emigration.

251. Recruiting under chapter IV of the Assam Labour and Emigration Act, VI of 1901, was carried on in 19 districts. About 3,537 labourers, many of them women and children, were recruited as against 4,750 in the previous year. The Gurkhas recruited in Gorakhpur were first shown to the military recruiting officer, so that no man fit for and willing to undertake military service was recruited for the labour districts. There was no recruiting under chapter V of the Act. Owing to the successful working of the system there were only four prosecutions. Illegal practices which prevailed in Basti seem to have disappeared.

Immigration.

252. No statistics are maintained.

52—Medical Relief.

(For details see the annual report on the administration of civil hospitals for the year ending the 31*st December,* 1916, *and the tables under the head "Hospitals," Part V—Statistics of British India.)*

Dispensaries.

253. The year opened with 637 dispensaries and closed with 640, including 41 state travelling dispensaries, 10 state public, 47 police, 3

Forest and Surveys, 22 canal, 367 Local Funds (including 46 travelling dispensaries), 46 private aided, 48 private non-aided, 55 railways, and one at the Army Clothing Factory at Shahjahanpur. During the year 5,238,626 patients were treated at state public, local funds, and private aided dispensaries, as against 5,056,531 in 1915, thus continuing the rise noted in the previous year. Even deducting attendance at travelling dispensaries, there was a substantial increase of 134,369 patients in the year, chiefly ascribable to a rise in malaria patients, who aggregated 179,144. In-door attendance also continued to increase, by 2,951 to 80,228, a record figure. The total attendance at female dispensaries increased from 405,040 to 422,130. The percentage of deaths to the total number of in-patients declined from 4·18 to 3·79. The 87 travelling dispensaries treated 661,242, or 21,615 more persons than in 1915, and have now proved their success and popularity with the public.

Lady Doctors.

254. Lady doctors and female sub-assistant surgeons paid 5,867 visits as against 5,997 in 1915; of these 3,334 were medical, 779 surgical, and 1,754 midwifery cases.

Financial.

255. Including an opening balance of 2·25 lakhs, the total receipts of state public, local fund, and private aided hospitals and dispensaries amounted to 20·38 lakhs, as compared with 18·74 lakhs in 1915. Expenditure rose from 16·48 to 18·05 lakhs, and was partly due to the increased cost of medicines. Local fund contributions rose from 8·59 to 9·25 lakhs, and municipal fund contributions from 1·10 to 1·15 lakhs, while those from Indians again rose from 1·34 to 1·39 lakhs. 4·01 lakhs were spent on medical buildings and repairs as against 3·31 lakhs in 1915. Rs. 34,398 were invested during the year as against Rs. 63,933 in 1915, and by the end of the year the invested capital declined slightly, owing to withdrawals, from 16·28 to 15·80 lakhs.

General.

256. The system of charging fees to well-to-do patients continued to work satisfactorily throughout the year. The income rose from Rs. 14,593 to Rs. 28,103 under this head. King George's Medical College finished the year with 137 students as against 134 in 1915: out of 29 students who appeared for the first M. B. B. S. examination, 16 passed, and of 22 and 19 that appeared for the final M.B.B. S. groups A and B respectively, 16 and 13 passed. In Lucknow the tuberculosis hospital continued to do good work, and the Lucknow Anti-Tuberculosis League was active throughout the year giving an exhibition at the National Congress meeting in December, 1916. The staff was much depleted by calls to military service, so that out of 64, the original number of Indian Medical Service officers, only 17 remain, of 24 military assistant surgeons only 2, in addition to which 8 civil assistant surgeons and 89 sub-assistant surgeons are employed mostly in the Military department. In spite of this lack of staff there has been no serious loss of efficiency, and certainly no decrease in popularity of medical institutions.

53.—Sanitation.

(For details see the annual report of the Sanitary Commissioner for the year ending the 31st December, 1916, the annual report of the Sanitary Engineer for the year ending 31st March, 1917, and the tables under the head "Area, population, and public health," Part V—Statistics of British India.)

Municipalities.

257. The total expenditure incurred on works of a sanitary nature under the Sanitary Engineer during the year ending the 31st March, 1917, amounted to 22·97 lakhs. Of this sum 10·47 lakhs were spent on waterworks (original), 6·85 lakhs on maintenance of water-works, and 5·60 lakhs on drainage works. The chief items in the expenditure on new water-works were: Agra 3·64 lakhs, Muttra 2·03 lakhs, and Fyzabad and Ajudhia 1·06 lakhs. The principal drainage works were in Allahabad 1·07 lakhs, Lucknow 1·39 lakhs. Most of the larger and many of the smaller municipalities had drainage or water-works in hand. The tube wells sunk in Cawnpore, Benares, Muttra, Fyzabad, Aligarh, Allahabad, Lucknow, Bahraich, Etawah and Gola Gokaran Nath were on the whole satisfactory, but in some instances

pumping appliances were unprocurable, owing to the war, as well as other material, while there was a constant need for revision of estimates and difficulties in executing orders owing to fluctuations in prices.

Fairs. 258. Departmental officers supervised the sanitation of the Magh Mela at Allahabad in January and February, the Hardwar fair in April, and the Dadri fair, but no officer could be spared for those at Garhmuktesar, Tigri, and Batesar. There was no epidemic.

Sanitary Board. 259. The Sanitary Board held ten meetings in the year. The Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals was appointed a member. The total sum at the disposal of the Board for expenditure on sanitary works amounted to 5·64 lakhs, and of this 4·47 lakhs were allotted to rural and urban sanitation while Rs. 70,000 were granted by Government towards the Muttra drainage and water-works scheme and Rs. 55,000 towards the Fyzabad water-works. Projects aggregating 13·74 lakhs were administratively sanctioned or approved, besides a few schemes which were placed on the list for preparation of estimates. Several schemes were refused owing to the inability of the local authorities to provide the necessary funds or particulars. The duties of the defunct Provincial Malaria Committee were taken over.

General. 260. Sanitary classes were held in the winter of 1915-16 : 22 out of 31 candidates passed the examination in the first year's course, and 19 out of 25 in the second year's course.

54.—Vaccination.

(For details see the annual report on vaccination for the year ending the 31st March, 1917, and the tables under the head "Vaccination," Part V—Statistics of British India.)

Establishment and charges. 261. The number of vaccinators was raised from 887 to 916, while that of assistant superintendents remained stationary at 49. The total expenditure rose from 2·41 to 2·44 lakhs.

Vaccinations. 262. The number of persons vaccinated rose from 1,615,558 to 1,643,119. Primary vaccinations and re-vaccinations also rose by 20,251 and 4,211 to 1,543,907 and 108,922. Secondary vaccinations fell from 12,809 to 9,710. The percentage of successful primary vaccinations and re-vaccinations was 97·75 and 74·07, as compared with 97·34 and 74·46 in the previous year. The number of persons successfully vaccinated per mille of population rose from 32·81 to 33·44. Garhwal as usual heads the list of districts highly protected against small-pox with 75·71 persons successfully vaccinated in the past five years out of 1,000, followed by Almora 68·17, Hamirpur 46·03, Jalaun 42·73, and Naini Tal 42·71. The least protected districts were Sultanpur 23·07, Bara Banki 23·17, Unao 26·71, and Partabgarh 26·79. Sultanpur continued to remain at the bottom of the list, and Bara Banki has improved only slightly. The proportion of successful vaccinations to births continues to improve, and the percentage for children under one year of age was 50·37 as compared with 50·01 in the previous year. The average cost of each successful vaccination was two annas. On the whole there was a steady, if slow, improvement on the average of previous years.

Inspections. 263. Deputy Sanitary Commissioners and District Superintendents of Vaccination inspected 252,200 vaccinations as against 231,067 in the previous year. The percentage of cases found successful rose from 96·61 to 97·23 for primary vaccinations, and fell from 69·82 to 65·50 for re-vaccinations. Assistant Superintendents and other inspecting officers inspected 691,165 vaccinations as compared with 684,089 in the previous year, and the percentage of cases found successful was 96·87 for primary vaccinations, and 62·56 for secondary vaccinations, as against 96·65 and 56·91 in 1915-16.

Lymph. 264. The Provincial Bovine Lymph Dépôt at Patwa Dangar in the Naini Tal district issued 82,960 grammes of lymph as against 83,110 grammes in the previous year. The gross income of the dépôt rose from Rs. 30,789 to Rs. 31,066, and the net profit after meeting expenditure fell from Rs. 9,561 to Rs. 8,731. The use of calf lymph has practically superseded arm to arm vaccination.

CHAPTER VII.—INSTRUCTION.

55—General system of education.

(See page 81 of the report for the year 1911-12.)

56—Education.

(For details see the quinquennial report on public instruction for the period ending 31st March, 1917, and the tables under the head "Education," Part VII—Statistics of British India.)

General.

265. The chief feature of the year's administration was the putting into practice of the proposals of the Primary Education Committee in most districts. The District Boards had been gradually increasing the number of scholars in the previous years with the help of the funds added to their finances, and in the year under review there was a considerable advance in most districts. In the matter of staff the department was handicapped by the deputation of officers to military duty. Seven Indian Educational officers and five officers holding special appointments were on active service, and three were engaged in war work in the country. In addition 40 private persons previously employed in educational institutions were on active service, and of these eight were killed in action or died. Two Indian Civil Service officers acted as Inspectors of Schools. A special Muhammadan Inspector of Schools was appointed. The Local Government's recommendations for a substantial increase in the numbers and pay of the district inspecting staff had been accepted by the Secretary of State in November, 1915, but in deference to the wishes of the Secretary of State and the Government of India, the introduction of the reforms was postponed until the advent of more favourable financial conditions. During the year, however, the sanction of the Government of India was obtained to the introduction of the portion of the scheme relating to deputy inspectors of Muhammadan schools, and nine of these officers were appointed.

Number of institutions and scholars.

266. The number of scholars increased to 894,886 from 841,334. The increase has been continuous in the past five years, and the present figure represents 23 per cent. of the boys of school-going age. At this rate the number of boys will rise to 35 per cent. in 15 years, which will be double the percentage in 1912. In reviewing the provincial figures of that year, the Government of India hoped that the numbers would be doubled within a short period of years. As regards girls, the percentage is 1·91, and is slowly increasing every year.

The number of institutions rose from 17,631 to 17,728.

Expenditure.

267. Excluding the expenditure on the Forest Research Institute, which was included for the first time in the year, expenditure rose from 139·19 to 146·41 lakhs. The Forest Research Institute and College at Dehra Dun involved an expenditure of 1·04 lakhs, which was entirely met from Imperial sources. Provincial expenditure rose from 46·60 to 46·91 lakhs, that of Municipal Boards from 4·6 to 5·46 lakhs, and that of District Boards from 37·14 to 38·60 lakhs.

University.

268. The three University professors continued to give lectures in Sanskrit, Indian History, and Economics. These professors do not prepare candidates for the ordinary University examinations, but give their attention to advanced students whom they train in methods of research. Of the 2,390 candidates for the matriculation examination only 658 were successful. The percentage of successes has been steadily falling owing to the fact that the better schools are recognized for the school-leaving certificate examination and that many of the candidates for the matriculation are drawn from the schools which are not considered fit to teach for the school-leaving certificate examination. The latter is gaining in popularity,

but the decrease in the number of candidates for the matriculation is less than was expected. There must always be a number of candidates, especially pupils from other provinces, who prefer the matriculation on the ground that the vernacular is not a compulsory subject in it, as it is in the school-leaving certificate examination.

In the intermediate examination 759 candidates were successful out of 1,723. The results of the other chief University examinations were as follows:—For the B.A. 403 passed out of 932, for the previous LL.B. 389 out of 546, for the Final LL.B. 260 out of 352, and for the B.Sc. 63 out of 152. The number of passes and candidates rose as usual.

The income of the University was Rs. 3,11,933 as compared with Rs. 3,04,654 in the previous year. The income from fees was Rs. 1,84,615. The expenditure totalled Rs. 2,76,996.

Collegiate education.

269. The total number of students receiving collegiate education at English Arts colleges increased from 4,731 to 4,815. Considerable progress was made with buildings and equipment. There was also considerable improvement in the hostel accommodation. The regulations regarding the residence of students were revised, and every under-graduate student is now required to reside in a hostel maintained by a college or recognized by the University, or with a parent or guardian, or in an approved lodging, when no accommodation is available in hostels. Societies of various kinds were encouraged, and the authorities are trying to bring about the existence of a genuine corporate life where it does not already exist. Prefects and monitors were appointed in some hostels with success. In the aided colleges there was a continuance of the complaint that the staff was inadequate and insufficiently paid. The war has affected the supply of instructors. In the Muir Central College the appointment of tutors promises success. Twenty institutions were classed in the previous year as Oriental colleges, but all except one are now shown in the returns as special schools. The only college remaining is the Sanskrit College at Benares. There were 367 students on the roll in the year, and the expenditure was Rs. 34,401. 3,253 candidates from affiliated Sanskrit pathshalas presented themselves for the various examinations as compared with 2,996 in the previous year.

Of 1,378 candidates for the Prathama only 27·8 passed, the low percentage being attributed to the fact that some pathshalas aimed rather at quantity than quality in the hope of securing a grant-in-aid. There were 1,363 candidates for the Madhyama and 512 for the Acharya. In these the percentage of passes was satisfactory. In the Mulla examination there were 57 candidates with 41 successes, and in the Fazil 12 out of 19 candidates passed.

The number of students in the University School of Law and in law classes attached to Arts colleges rose from 575 to 732, the increase in the number in the University School of Law being from 308 to 407.

The percentage of passes in the examinations rose from 71 to 82. The number of students at King George's Medical College, Lucknow, rose from 133 to 136. Seventeen passed the final examination. The total expenditure on collegiate education rose from 18·07 to 19·01 lakhs, of which 4·49 lakhs were covered by fees. The English colleges absorbed 11·27 lakhs, Oriental institutions ·34 lakhs, Engineering 3·35 lakhs, Medicine 1·13 lakhs, and Law ·48 lakhs.

Secondary education.

270. The number of secondary public schools (high and middle schools, English and vernacular) increased from 611 to 631, while the number of scholars attending them fell from 97,038 to 86,446, the decrease being confined to vernacular schools for reasons given below. High schools increased from 119 to 130, English middle schools declined from 81 to 79, and vernacular middle schools rose from 411 to 422. The expenditure on high schools and English middle schools rose from 22·39 to 23·59 lakhs, of which 48 per cent. was met from fees. The average annual cost of education in a Government school was Rs. 53·6 per boy, and in an aided school Rs. 40. The expenditure on vernacular schools totalled 5·04 as against 5·39 lakhs in the previous year. Fees fell from 1·27 to 1·15 lakhs. The decline in the

number of scholars in vernacular schools is on the whole more apparent than real owing to the final separation of the primary classes, which had been retained for the purpose of training teachers Now there are separate practising schools for this purpose. At the same time there is a tendency in some divisions to an actual decrease, the reason being the greater attractiveness of English education, as compared with the vernacular course, which is now weighted with another year of instruction, consequent on the addition of the seventh class. This addition was the outcome of a recommendation made by the Primary Education Committee, and was proposed by it mainly to improve the standard of the vernacular course and the vernacular final examination, in order to secure a better class of teacher for primary schools. The addition of another year to the vernacular course does not, so far as can be seen at present, commend itself to the public. One direct result was that there was no regular vernacular final examination during the year; a supplementary examination was held for those candidates who had failed in the previous year, and of the comparatively small number of 2,949 candidates, as many as 1,837 passed—a high proportion, due to the peculiar circumstances of the year. For the school-leaving certificate the number of candidates increased from 2,181 to 2,655, thus for the first time exceeding those appearing for the matriculation. Mention has been made in paragraph 268 of the reasons for the continued popularity of the matriculation, but there is no doubt that the school-leaving certificate is gaining in popularity year by year, and is attracting a better class of scholar. From the point of view of the latter, there is the knowledge that any untoward incident in the examination will be discounted by the examiner, who will take into consideration the previous record in the school, and there is also the advantage that the examination is held *in situ*. The percentage of passes was 49. The quality of teachers continued to improve: in Government high schools the trained teachers had risen to 48 per cent. of the whole number, but in District and Municipal schools the percentages were lower, and they were even less in the aided schools. The accommodation in the Training college is, however, limited. The improvement in the quality of teachers is specially noticeable in the vernacular schools, where the trained teachers actually preponderate, and where the recommendations of the Primary Education Committee are gradually being brought into effect in the matter of pay. There was great activity in the year in improving accommodation in all descriptions of schools, and hostels attached thereto. If the present rate of progress is maintained, it will not be long before all the high schools will be properly housed. The English middle schools have poorer accommodation, but their position is anomalous from the departmental point of view, in that they do not give a complete English education. They are useful only as indicating a demand for a potential high school, which, when local circumstances admit, may be established. The war was responsible for hindering the building of vernacular middle schools, and there is still a good deal to be done, particularly in the matter of boarding-houses.

271. The number of primary schools rose from 10,471 to 10,535. The number of scholars continued to increase, rising from 628,367 to 649,065, which brings the boys attending school as compared with those of school-going age to the proportion of 23 per cent., a considerable step towards the realization of the 35 per cent. fixed by the Government of India in its review on education for the quinquennium ending in March, 1912. It must be remembered, however, that the percentage is for boys attending all kinds of schools, primary and others. The continued rise is the outcome of the improved finances of the District Boards, supplemented by the re-organization instituted by the Primary Education Committee. Most of the districts had their schemes under this re-organization established by the end of the year, but in very few were the schools up to the standard prescribed. The number of scholars in the upper primary classes fell from 83,721 to 83,331. The aim of the Primary Education Committee was to bring a full primary school, if not to the door of every villager, at least to within a distance of two or three miles of his village. Another equally important matter is the popularising of primary education among the rural community to which

Primary education.

end something has been done by providing harvest holidays, and in one district half-time schools. As to these remedies there are still doubts and differences of opinion, and the Director considered that the matter needed threshing out. The fact remains, however, that though the average villager has no objection to his boys going to school when they are of no use to him in the fields, he is inclined to withdraw them from school at the age when their instruction in the upper primary classes begins, and when it is most necessary for them to attend, from the scholastic point of view, for the whole day. In the case of the poorer classes this is more apparent. The Primary Education Committee pointed out that education which ended at the lower primary stage was not worthy of the name, and that the census figures proved that such education was speedily forgotten. The present increased enrolment is necessarily in the lower classes, and its effect can only be gradual, so far as the higher classes are concerned. The total expenditure increased from 24·3 to 26·03 lakhs. The improvement in the number and qualifications of teachers continued and in most districts the pay was raised to the standard prescribed, by the Committee, though, of course, since the war, the increase has been discounted by the rise in the cost of living. The building of school houses had been delayed by the non-receipt of plans from the Public Works department, but with their arrival progress has been possible, though the scarcity of some descriptions of materials has entailed changes and delay. Attention was paid to school gardens, play-grounds, and hygiene. Municipal schools, however, are still in some cases accommodated in insanitary or unsuitable buildings, and the Boards concerned have had their attention drawn to the matter.

Training and supply of teachers.

272. The number of students in the Allahabad Training College increased from 43 to 51 and in the Lucknow Training College from 59 to 60. As in the previous year, the percentage of third class graduates in the Allahabad College showed no improvement and remained at 70 per cent. In 1914-15 the proportion was only 60 per cent. and the material is, therefore, not showing any tendency to improve. The number of stipends was increased from 30 to 45, and it is proposed to increase them still further to 54. The staff is now strong enough to instruct 60 students. Much assistance was obtained from the appointment of the Assistant to the Chief Inspectress in the matter of training women teachers. The Lucknow College, which trains teachers who are not graduates, turned out some excellent teachers, though in this institution there is still room for improvement in the class of students. Six drill masters were trained in the year. The manual training class did well, and the language teachers were found to have improved considerably under training. Out of 517 teachers studying in the normal schools 347 appeared for the vernacular teacher's certificate examination, and 297 passed. Training classes increased from 254 to 267, and the number of pupil teachers studying in them from 1,680 to 1,807. The number of training institutions for mistresses in Indian schools has increased from 14 to 22 and the number of students, who were mostly Indian Christians, from 120 to 186.

Technical education.

273. There were 28 technical and industrial schools as against 30 in the previous year, and the enrolment was 1,678 as against 1,988. The enrolment in the Technical School at Lucknow increased from 111 to 131. This school continued to do good work. The machining of shells was curtailed, owing to the development of the Munitions department. There were 75 students in the night classes, with an average daily attendance of 45. There were 36 boarders in the boarding-house. The enrolment of the Technical School at Gorakhpur increased from 78 to 83. Five students who passed out of the school were apprenticed: two to the Agricultural Engineer, two in the Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway workshop, and two in the Bengal and North-Western Railway workshop. A power house and hostel are under construction. Proposals are being formulated for specialising in engineering connected with agricultural manufactures, such as sugar and oil manufacture, and pumping. This school did some munitions work. The enrolment of the School of Arts and Crafts, Lucknow, continued to increase, rising from 118 to 150. An enquiry was made as to the proportion of boys

studying in the school who had hereditary connection with the trades concerned, and it was ascertained that only 42 out of 150 were so connected. Although the educated boy soon surpasses the boy who belongs by heredity to any particular trade, yet there may be difficulties in the way of the former obtaining employment. The night classes continued to attract many students, and the only obstacle to development is the lack of accommodation. The number of students in the Bareilly Carpentry school has risen from 46 to 59. The night classes were well attended, the average present being 24. Total orders to the value of Rs. 27,317 were carried out by local firms under the supervision of the school, and these were instrumental in procuring direct orders for the firms. In this way the standard of local manufacture was raised. It is hoped to start a supplementary toy industry, to make use of the scrap material available, and to satisfy the demand, in preference to Japanese articles which are tending to replace toys formerly imported from Germany. The number of students on the rolls of the Central Weaving Institute at Benares rose from 52 to 75. An experimental weaving factory was established in connection with the Institute and demonstrations were given to the intending purchasers of small weaving plants. A central store was also opened, and is serving a useful purpose. One of its advantages is that the weaver can now rely upon obtaining correct counts of yarn instead of the mixed counts formerly obtainable, which resulted in uneven cloth. Local competition by Julahas at Tanda led to the school there being closed. The peripatetic weaving classes continued to do good work, and the existing number of two was doubled. Others will be added. A peripatetic dyeing school started in July, 1916, was very successful. It visited three districts in the year. Its aim was to teach the dyers how to employ indigenous material in lieu of the imported article, which is no longer available. The Cawnpore Dyeing School was extremely popular, and many applicants had to be refused. There is a strong demand in the local mills for expert dyers. Six students passed the City and Guilds of London Institute examination. In the Cawnpore Leather Working school there were 34 students. There were 55 girls in the Needle Work School at Lucknow, and it has advanced to the stage in which it can afford to maintain paid workers outside for marketing the produce. Commercial classes were held in three colleges: the St. John's College, Agra, and the Lucknow and Meerut Colleges. The Allahabad University has instituted an examination for a commercial certificate after a two years' course. The students in the Agra Medical School increased from 533 to 618. The women students increased from 59 to 61. The latter, it was noticed, showed aptitude and ability. The numbers on the rolls are abnormally high, owing mainly to the demand for military sub-assistant surgeons.

Female education.

274. The number of Indian girls' schools rose from 1,384 to 1,531, and the scholars from 47,868 to 50,131: 19,555 girls were studying in boys' schools, so that the total enrolment was 69,686. There were 969 girls in the secondary stage, an advance of 50 per cent. on the figure of five years ago. The total expenditure rose from 5·76 to 5·86 lakhs. There were 36 Anglo-vernacular and 50 vernacular secondary schools. The six high schools contained 808 pupils. In the Isabella Thoburn High School, Lucknow, the school-leaving certificate examination was substituted for the matriculation. The 30 Anglo-vernacular middle schools had 3,010 pupils, and the 50 vernacular middle schools 4,786. The number of model schools rose from 15 to 19. Of the 64 candidates for the matriculation as many as 22 passed, a considerable improvement on the year before. Of 160 candidates for the English middle examination 129 were successful, and in the vernacular middle examination 69 out of 197. The number of primary schools increased from 1,058 to 1,083 and their enrolment from 35,663 to 36,426 but a very small proportion of the scholars reached the upper primary stage. The chief difficulty from the point of view of the department was the lack of trained teachers, which is inevitable in view of the small number of educated women in the province. With better teachers it might be possible to awaken an interest in female education in the community, which, so far, has not given it serious consideration. The lack of

interest and general apathy are, as ever, the most serious obstacles to progress and nothing much can be done until there is a considerable change in the attitude of the people. Some advance was made in training teachers, and in the matter of buildings also, but until there is a genuine desire for improvement, it is hardly worth while putting up substantial school houses.

Education of special classes.

275. There were 71 institutions in all for the education of Europeans, including 44 secondary schools, 3 colleges, and 11 primary schools, as well as 13 special technical and training schools. The enrolment rose from 5,395 to 5,717, there being 2,261 girls in secondary schools, 2,853 boys in secondary schools, and 322 in primary schools. In the 13 technical and special schools there were 258 scholars. There were 13 high schools for boys and 17 for girls. The year was the first in which the Cambridge local examinations were held, in supersession of the previous provincial examinations. Of 671 candidates 416 or 62 per cent. were successful: 419 boys and 252 girls appeared. The former on the whole did better than the latter, though the standard of distinction was not very high. Expenditure rose slightly from 13·08 to 13·09 lakhs. Two-fifths of this was met from fees, two-fifths from provincial revenues, and one-fifth from subscriptions, endowments, etc. The enrolment of the Colvin Taluqdars' school rose from 45 to 60. Five boys out of six passed the matriculation, which is to be shortly replaced by the school-leaving certificate examination. As regards the education of Muhammadans, which was thought to be lagging behind that of the Hindus, considerable advance was made on the lines laid down by the Primary Education Committee. The measures were sanctioned in the previous year, and have been mentioned in the report for that year, but the most important of them, the appointment of a Muhammadan Inspector for schools for the province and of Muhammadan deputy inspectors for each division except Kumaun, was introduced in the year under report. A committee was also formed to consider the question of supplying suitable text-books for *maktabs*. The number of Muhammadan scholars increased by 15 per cent. in the year, the Islamia schools from 28 to 92, and the aided *maktabs* from 201 to 291. As against this, private *maktabs* and schools decreased by 100, and the number of their pupils by 500. The expenditure by local boards increased by Rs. 13,350. Three districts had taken active steps for furthering the education of the depressed classes, and two others were contemplating the opening of schools. Private enterprise was also to the fore.

57—Literature and the press.

(See the tables under the head "Printing Presses and Publications," Part VII—Statistics of British India.)

Literary publications.

276. Despite the rise in the cost of paper the literary output was the largest on record. No less than 2,272 publications were registered as compared with 2,023 in 1915. The largest increase is in works written in the Hindi language, in which connection it is to be noted that not a few Musalmans have employed the Deva-Nagari character.

Classified by subjects the rise was greatest under religion (65), history (41), biography (27), medicine (28), science (22), and poetry (27). Although there was a reduction of 20 publications treating of politics, the subject was dealt with in many cases in books, the ostensible purport of which was history, fiction, social reform, or economics. The 19 books on the war breathe a spirit of genuine loyalty and emanate from Christians, Musalmans, Aryas, and orthodox Hindus alike. In some there are quaint parallels drawn with mythical fights in India: others show that their authors are closely following the course of the war, and others again are fiery denunciations of the Kaiser and Kultur.

Religion, politics, and social reform are again much in evidence. In particular it is significant of the hold of Hinduism on the people that as many as 436 books on that religion were produced in the year. From a scholarly point of view the most useful contribution was the translation of the "Purva Mimansa Sutras" for the series of "Sacred Books of the Hindus" from the pen of the eminent Sanskritist Dr. Ganga Nath Jha, the editor of

"Indian Thought." Of less merit are the numerous translations and commentaries on the "Ramayan" and other scriptures. Controversial religious literature was again much to the fore, having for its chief feature, depreciatory attacks on rival creeds. It is therefore refreshing to find a new departure in the shape of a Hindu Family Prayer book, but it is doubtful whether such a laudable effort at unification will appeal to the protean spirit of Hinduism. Of another type is that popular work Swami Satdeo's "Book of National Prayers," which, as its name suggests, is political rather than religious.

In the domain of history, while most works are written in a partisan and unscientific spirit for political and other ends, there are a few that may be singled out as genuine efforts, such as the histories of the "Kingdom of Bijapur" and the "Benares State," and a book of selections from the "Kitab-al-Fakhri," a history of the "Caliphate" composed in 1301 A. D.

Biographies include as many as five of Swami Vivekanand, the founder of the sect of his name, and he and Swami Dayanand Saraswati are rapidly becoming mythical heroes along with Sivaji and Maharana Pratap Singh of Chittor. Swami Satdeo is again prominent with an account of his travels in Tibet, which will be read with interest by his wide circle of admirers.

Political treatises were divisible, as usual, according as the writer was concerned with the defects of the present or the merits of the past. In the latter class are those which ascribe the manifold ills of the body politic to the neglect of ancient ideals of life and conduct.

The golden age of the Rishis is compared with modern conditions to their detriment. Mrs. Besant's dissertation on Home Rule for India was translated into Hindi and appeared as the first of a series to be known as the "Swarajya Mala."

In matters of social reform caste is answerable for 43 publications, including one which bases a claim for the descent of Chamars from the solar dynasty of the Kshattriyas on the authority of a Sanskrit document said to have been discovered in the Himalayas. Marriage customs and the position of women are becoming annually more absorbing topics of discussion, though such subjects as cow-protection and the joint family system still command attention. The interest in the parda question, which was dealt with by both Musalman and Hindu writers, is proof of the awakening of a movement towards female emancipation.

Works of fiction continue to increase. The most notable are tales after the style of the late Deokinandan Khattri, dealing with necromancy, magic and intrigue, nine novels by Abdul Halim Sharar, and two by Babu Brijnandan Parshad, late member of the Provincial Legislative Council. Of the latter two works, one is historical, and the other an adaptation from one of Marie Corelli's books. Seven of Abdul Halim's novels profess to be historical, dealing with countries as far afield as Sicily and Spain under Islamic rulers. Two of Reynolds' works were translated.

The output of poetry was immense, chiefly owing to the fact that this head includes much that is verse but not strictly poetry proper. In poetry proper the best work is represented by the reprints of historical epics of the past, such as the "Parinala Raso" and the "Chatra Prakasa." Apart from these and many inferior ballads, there may be mentioned two volumes of verse in Bengali by Sir Rabindra Nath Tagore, and two dramas and a collection of poems by Maithili Sharma Gupta.

Educational books include a complete paraphrase of Shakespeare's Macbeth and a translation from the Persian of the Masnavi of Maulana Rum. Of the various works on Sanskrit and Arabic literature, the most striking is a review of post-Vedic literature by a student of the Kangri Gurukul. Advanced studies are well represented by the "Journal of Economics" edited by Professor Jevons and a pamphlet of the "Progress of the Co-operative Movement in India." Of another type are Mahabir Parsad Dube's "Manual of Political Economy" and Purna Singh's work on "Agriculture" which reproduce the well known views of Indian economists.

277. The high cost of paper and the small profit from journalism which, though growing yearly, is still in its infancy, weeded out the small

Indian Press.

fry: the number of newspapers and periodicals fell from 357 to 347, 45 representing new ventures and 55 being discontinued. Of the papers which at the close of the year remained, 64 were in English, 131 in Urdu, and 127 in Hindi: the circulation exceeded 1,000 in the case of 15 English, 16 Urdu, and 29 Hindi papers The circulation in no case exceeded 6,000, and to this cause may be attributed the low developement of the advertisements columns.

Tone and policy.

278. As might be expected with a circle of readers resident for the most part in the large towns, the topic that ranked first was politics followed *longo intervallo* by religion and social reform. Under the head of politics should be ranked education the extension of which as a step to self-government was recognised as indispensable. There was a significant lack of interest in agriculture, trade, industry, and banking as such, and what comment there was, was in relation mostly to politics.

Although political reform was much to the fore, the language on the whole was temperate, and the action taken under the Press Act was not in excess of that in the previous year. It was necessary for the Local Government to issue eight warnings to various newspapers, three relating to sectarian and two to political matters, in addition to three warnings administered by District Magistrates on minor matters. Five printing presses did not open on failure to furnish security demanded and for the same reason eight newspapers did not appear. The agitation against the Press Act continued, as well as that against the internments in Bengal, and that of the Muhammad Ali and Shaukat Ali brothers. Home Rule was pushed. Favourable comparisons were drawn between the Irish rebellion and the exemplary behaviour of India on the one hand, and on the other to the different degrees of sympathy extended to Home Rule in Ireland and India. Mrs. Besant's Home Rule League was warmly welcomed by the progressive papers. The end of the year was marked by the culmination of the negotiations between the Hindu and Muslim progressives and the formulation of a joint Congress and Muslim League programme of reform. The League's alliance with the Hindus drew down on it criticisms from the Muslim conservative organs. On the whole, however, the latter gradually veered round to nationalist views with the reservation that the interests of the Muslim community should be saf-eguarded. The question of Home Rule was discussed with fervour, and the memorandum of post-war reforms drawn up by the nineteen non-official members of the Supreme Council was strongly supported as representing the minimum demand of the country. The new Municipal Act was welcomed as a step in the direction of self-government, though the Jahangirabad amendment came in for strong criticism. At the beginning of the year Sir S. P. Sinha's presidential address at the 1915 Congress was severely criticised at the hands of the progressives as a feeble presentment of Indian aspirations. Many of the old-standing grievances were revived, such as the non-separation of the executive and judicial functions, the salt duties, the cotton excise duties, the annual official exodus to the hills, the treatment of Indian colonists and others in the Dominions, the methods of the police and the C. I. D., and the high expenditure on them as compared with the alleged unsympathetic and niggardly policy in extending education, and the backward policy in raising educational standards instead of lowering them, so as to cover more ground at a lower cost per head. The grant of self-government by the United States to the Philippines was held up as an example. Industrial topics were discussed mainly from the political view-point: Japan's material progress was a constant theme, and it was feared that India's commercial prospects would be sacrificed to vested interests in Britain. As regards the Industrial Commission, it was apprehended that by the time that its report saw the light and was dealt with, the present unique opportunity would have passed away. The rise in prices at the end of the year called forth a demand for Government action.

Besides the usual controversies on cow-killing, the Bakr Id, and the Muharram, the main religious topics were the 1916 Bakr Id riots in Bihar, and the negotiations regarding the canal works on the Ganges, as affecting the sacred pool at Hardwar.

In educational matters the chief item of interest was the foundation of the Hindu University at Benares, which moved the Muslims to contrast their own indecision to accept the Government conditions for a Muslim University. Mrs. Besant's appeal for a National College met with a cool reception. The steps taken by Government to advance Muslim education were appreciated, and the grievances of Shias at the Aligarh College accentuated the demand for the proposed Shia College.

Foreign politics and the war did not command much attention and interest in the latter waned, except for the major incidents, such as the evacuation of Gallipoli, the surrender of Kut, and the Arab revolt. Nevertheless the attitude of the press was thoroughly loyal and in lieu of the tendency noticed last year of belittling the achievements of the allies and sympathising with the Turks, the Muslim papers championed India and her suzerain.

Lord Hardinge's administration was favourably reviewed, as that of a wise and sympathetic ruler; it was generally agreed that he personally was not responsible for repressive legislation, and that but for the war his administration would have been more liberal and progressive. The warm welcome accorded to his successor by the Anglo-Indian press aroused the suspicion that a conservative policy was in store. The appointment of Lord Ronaldshay as Governor of Bengal was strongly criticised, and many passages from his books on India were quoted to prove his antipathy to Indian aspirations. Mr. Asquith's resignation and the ministerial changes were discussed and it was thought that the new ministry would be too pre-occupied by the war to control Mr. Chamberlain the Secretary of State for India.

58—Literary Societies.

(*See page* 92 *of the report for the year* 1911-12.)

59—Arts and Sciences.

(For details see the annual report of the Lucknow Provincial Museum for the year ending 31*st March,* 1917.*)*

279. The progress recorded during recent years towards making the Lucknow Museum a thoroughly educative and at the same time an attractive institution was fairly maintained throughout the year. Important additions were made, especially in the archaeological and ethnographical sections. The cataloguing of coins progressed. The classes in archaeology were continued. Excavations were begun at Sankisa on the Kali Nadi in the Farrukhabad district, and coins of B. C. 200 and later were found as well as many seals. During the year the additions to the museum numbered 674, as follows:—Archaeological 43, coins 377, natural history 34, pictures 1, ethnographical 219. The number of visitors that passed the turn-stiles rose from 108,986 to 122,381, a record figure. To this total must be added 752 *parda-nashin* ladies. The expenditure after deducting Rs. 422 income was Rs. 16,784 as against Rs. 15,016 in the previous year.

Chapter VIII.—ARCHAEOLOGY.

60—Archaeology.

(For details see the annual report of the Superintendent, Muhammadan and British Monuments, Northern Circle and of the Superintendent, Hindu and Buddhist Monuments, Northern Circle, for the year ending 31*st March,* 1917.*)*

Conservation

280. The amount spent on the conservation of Muhammadan and British monuments in the United Provinces was Rs. 42,215 as against Rs. 62,379 in the previous year. The Preservation of Ancient Monuments Act was applied to the following:—the Bara Khamba at Kagarol, and the Jagner Fort at Jagner, both in the Kheragarh tahsil, Agra, and the Bibiapur house in the Lucknow Cantonment. The Act was withdrawn from the

tomb of Ghazi Khan in muhalla Kathgar, Jaunpur. Rs. 7,677 were spent on special repairs and Rs. 34,538 on annual repairs. Various inscriptions were recorded.

The total expenditure on Hindu and Buddhist monuments in the United Provinces amounted to Rs. 5,522, including Rs. 1,575 on annual repairs. Rs. 3,946 were spent on special repairs to the temple of Sitaramji in Soron in Etah, the brick temples at Tinduli in Fatehpur and at Bhitargaon in Cawnpore, the Dwarahat ruins in Almora and the Buddhist ruins at Sarnath. The monuments declared protected were the Kotwali chabutra, a group of Baleswar temples, and the Naula or covered spring, all at Champawat in Almora, and the double Hindu-Muhammadan shrine of Kabir Shah at Maghar in Basti. Thirty-five monuments in the Jhansi district were proposed for protection. Some interesting inscriptions were discovered in the Muttra district and 5 copper celts in Shahjahanpur.

Exploration.

281. Thirty-six stone sculptures were excavated at Sarnath and deposited in the local museum there. The site explored by means of trial diggings by the honorary curator of the Muttra Museum in the past year was examined, and inscriptions were deciphered. Kosam in Allahabad was examined, and the inscription on the column was deciphered.

CHAPTER IX.—MISCELLANEOUS.

61—Ecclesiastical jurisdiction.

(See page 94 of the report for the year 1911-12.)

62—Ecclesiastical.

282. The year was uneventful save for the deputation of a few chaplains to the war.

63—Stationery.

Stationery.

283. The total value of the stationery stores supplied to these provinces during 1916-17 was Rs. 4,80,319 as against Rs. 5,16,525 in the previous year. The value of stationery issued to officers was Rs. 1,29,080 or Rs. 575 less than in the previous year, and to the printing presses Rs. 3,51,239 or Rs. 35,631 less than in the previous year. The chief decreases in issues to officers were under the head of General Administration Rs. 2,385 Medical Rs. 1,120, and Forest Rs. 911, while the chief increases were Public Works Rs. 1,613, mainly for tracing cloth and Education Rs. 996, mainly for drawing paper and materials.

64—General—miscellaneous.

Government Press.

284. The receipts of the Government press fell from Rs. 1,47,128 to Rs. 1,45,303. The total expenditure fell from Rs. 4,08,442 to Rs. 3,64,356. The total value of the outturn of printing and binding fell from Rs. 6,90,561 to Rs. 6,29,253. The most noticeable decreases were under Public Works Rs. 32,099, Police Rs. 25,468, General Administration Rs. 10,723, and Local Boards Rs. 10,217. The largest increase was under Revenue department Rs. 9,421. A sum of Rs. 13,569 was disbursed to private firms as against Rs. 18,512 in the previous year. The cost of printing per page rose from Re. 1-4-3 to Re. 1-5-4. The number of publications received under the Registration Act were 2,273 of which 1,676 were original works and 597 reprints. The chief publishing centres were Benares 539, Allahabad 452, Lucknow 386, Cawnpore 155, Moradabad 146, Meerut 140, Agra 110, and Muttra 89. The price of paper and materials for the first nine months was 15 per cent. and for the rest of the year 100 per cent. above normal. White and half-bleached paper were largely replaced by unbleached and brown paper. The supply of superior book-binding leathers was practically exhausted and straw-boards were scarce.

REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION

OF THE

UNITED PROVINCES OF AGRA AND OUDH,

1917-1918.

ALLAHABAD:

PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS, UNITED PROVINCES,

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BOMBAY BRANCH

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Royal Asiatic Society.

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REPORT

ON THE

Administration of the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh,

1917-18.

PART I.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

General conditions.

1. The record of the moral and material progress of the United Provinces in the fourth year of the war is in many respects similar to the record of the preceding year. Progress was maintained in some directions; in others it was found necessary to mark time. A monsoon that was only slightly less favourable than that of 1916 ensured to the people generally a fair measure of prosperity. Difficulties occasioned by lack of transport, though serious, were not so great as to occasion any acute distress. Scarcity and high prices of materials were felt in many departments, but while some projects for this reason had to be postponed, in others progress, though on a diminished scale, was found possible. All departments were handicapped by the deputation to military service of many of their officials but, thanks to the energy and devotion with which the depleted ranks responded to the call, the decline in efficiency was much less than might reasonably have been expected. The war was too remote to arouse any great interest among the masses of the people, but a spirit of loyalty continued to be displayed by all classes, and a cheerful readiness to meet the greater demands which the position required. Prices rose as the year advanced, and the dearness of cloth and grain was undoubtedly severely felt, but while it was generally recognized that an improvement could not be expected till the end of the war, there was little disposition to criticise or murmur at its prolongation, and it was only at the close of the year, when the critical phase was reached, that the voice of rumour was again heard and some doubt as to the issue was shown by the hoarding of silver and the depreciation of currency notes.

Agriculture.

2. The monsoon of 1917 lasted from the middle of June till late in October. Its distribution, however, was not so even or regular as in the preceding year. In July the rainfall was above normal in nearly all divisions; in August and September heavy falls occurred in Bundelkhand and the Upper and Central Doab where considerable damage was done to the cotton which is the staple autumn crop of those areas. On the other hand there was some shortage in August in the rice-growing districts in the Rohilkhand, Gorakhpur and Fyzabad divisions. In Bundelkhand crops generally were spoilt by excess of rain. Late rice did well and the area brought under this crop was one of the largest on record; but a season which is favourable for rice rarely suits other crops and the outturn of the millet crop in particular was poor. Sugarcane did fairly well. The winter rains were poor and little fell before March. But this was the less severely felt as the late rains in October had left abundant moisture. The spring crop, though a

fair harvest, was not up to the average of the previous year, but the harvest was got in in excellent condition and the grain was of good quality. Prices opened easier than in 1916 but hardened considerably during the year. There was some increase in cattle disease. Wages were high and on the whole with good prices for agricultural produce the year was a fairly prosperous one for the agricultural classes.

The operations of the Agricultural department continued to expand. Several more farms were opened during the year, necessitating an increase in the subordinate agricultural service and a very considerable expansion of the fieldman service. The purposes of these farms vary. Some are devoted to the supply of seed and maintenance of purity of selected types. District farms serve not only for demonstration purposes but also for testing the suitability of new varieties to the conditions of the district. It is now the accepted policy to open one such farm in each district as the strength of the staff permits. The popularity of the Agricultural College at Cawnpore is increasing and the number of applications received for admission to the two-year course indicates that there is a growing demand for an education in which the teaching of practical agriculture is a prominent feature. Research work on cotton was hampered by the abnormally heavy rain in September which partially ruined the crop. As regards sugarcane new canes are being tried, but the main efforts of the department are directed not so much towards introducing better canes, but to improving the general standard of cultivation. The work on wheat, on the other hand, consists mainly in the systematic introduction of improved wheats into those parts of the provinces where they have proved definitely superior to the local varieties.

There is a steady increase in the number of stud bulls and horse and pony stallions maintained by the Civil Veterinary department. It is anticipated that during the next few years there will be an increasing demand for stud bulls, and as far as possible steps are being taken to provide for the contingency. In view also of the increasing shortage of horses in India owing to the requirements of the Army district boards and other public bodies are being urged to give every encouragement and help in the matter of horse-breeding.

Trade and Industry.

3. The war again both directly and indirectly had a considerable influence on trade. There was a decline in imports, chiefly of coal and coke, grain and salt, this being due for the most part to freight difficulties and high prices. The price of cotton cloth rose steadily during the year, causing much hardship to the poorer classes. The rise in price was not limited to this province and is attributable mainly to restricted imports, but the local mills also were busy manufacturing supplies for the army, while the increase in the price of raw cotton and yarn reduced considerably the outturn of the handloom industry. Restricted supplies of salt were available for the provinces from the Indian mines owing to the reduced imports from foreign sources and the consequent increased demand for Indian salt in the maritime provinces. Prices rose very sharply as the result of speculation, and special measures had to be adopted in the way of opening of salt shops by local bodies and preferential supply to them. These measures were on the whole successful. There was also a great increase in the price of kerosine oil and the supply of petrol was very small at times. Of special importance in its effect on the prices of other foodstuffs was the great falling off in the imports of Burma

rice. On the other hand there was an increase in the imports of commodities which were required for war industries, notably wool, nearly all of which went to Cawnpore. Exports rose by nearly 100 lakhs of maunds and as might be expected the bulk was sent to Karachi or Bombay, the largest increases occurring in fodder and grain. In making purchases of wheat and other foodgrains for abroad the Wheat Commissioner sought seasons when prices were comparatively low and surplus stocks were available. Prices were thus maintained at a fairly uniform level. Exports to Calcutta actually decreased, owing mainly to smaller despatch of oilseeds. The cotton crop was one of the worst for many years and cotton exports fell accordingly. The trade of Cawnpore formed over twelve per cent. of the total external trade of the provinces. The mills and tanneries continued to be largely occupied in the execution of military orders and had again a very prosperous year. The Local Government took special measures to develop the glass industry in the province, advantage being taken of the restricted imports in this commodity. The resin and turpentine industry also made much progress. There was a slight decrease in the volume of imports from Tibet but a rise in value, and exports rose both in weight and value. The fixing of the price of wool at the Bhabar railheads appears to have had a prejudicial effect on its import from Tibet. Imports from Nepal increased and the exports trade declined. The decline in exports to Nepal has been marked for the last five years and is attributed to the high prices in British India of salt and oil which are the chief articles of export. The railways were largely occupied in the transport of munitions of war and had also a reduced staff. Trade both within the provinces and for purposes of export and import suffered much from transport difficulties.

Political.

4. The year 1916 had witnessed a remarkable growth in political activity, and the movement was continued and intensified during 1917. All parties united in demanding extensive constitutional reforms, but internal differences, always latent, became rapidly apparent after the announcement of the 20th August, which defined the aims and policy of the British Government; and the cleavage between moderates and extremists had by the close of the year become patent to all observers. The leading Congress organ threw its weight definitely on the side of moderation, but its lead was not followed by the other Hindu papers, in which as in the advanced Muslim papers the criticisms of British rule tended to grow more bitter, and the advocacy of sweeping and revolutionary changes more pronounced. In parts of the province attempts were made to carry propaganda into the villages, but this excited little interest amongst the rural masses, and the towns still retain their practical monopoly of politics. In general agitation was restrained and repressive measures were rare. The Congress-League *entente* never very acceptable to the more conservative sections of the Muhammadan community was bitterly denounced after the Bihar riots, and the disturbances in certain places in these provinces in connection with the Ramlila and Mohurrum celebrations which after a long interval again clashed in 1917.

Police and Crime.

5. The general prosperity of the provinces is reflected in the crime returns which are so low that it is necessary to go back a number of years to find a parallel. Especially gratifying is the decrease in dacoity to the level of 1914 after the somewhat disquieting increase of the two succeeding years. The decline extended to all important classes of crime, except murder and riot,

and was especially marked in offences against property. It is significant that the districts which record the largest decrease under the latter head include a group in the centre of the provinces where operations under the Criminal Tribes Act have been in force for several years. The vigorous recruiting campaign also no doubt diverted a number of wilder spirits to military service, but the force itself may fairly claim a considerable share in the credit due to the satisfactory results achieved. Despite the depletion of nearly all ranks there was little apparent loss in efficiency and discipline was well maintained. A further increase of pay was granted during the year to the lower ranks, but the position is still unsatisfactory. The competition of the army has no doubt enhanced the difficulty of obtaining recruits and the uncertainty as to the future level of prices complicates the problem of devising a scale of pay likely to prove adequate over any considerable number of years. The indications are, however, that the solution will be found to lie in the maintenance of a smaller, better-paid, and more efficient force. The formation since the close of the year of the police battalions has brought matters to a head as regards the armed police. The resignations during 1917 amounted to 9 per cent. of the total strength, and a radical re-organization of this branch is now imperative.

Excise. 6. There was a substantial increase in revenue from Excise, receipts reaching a record figure. The most remarkable feature of the year as regards Foreign Liquor has been the large decrease in consumption of spirits, due to the scarcity and high cost of imported articles, and the large increase in consumption of beer, a large part of which comes from the Punjab. In spite of increases in duty and cost there was a slight rise in the consumption of country liquor and drugs, which is due to the generally favourable economic conditions of the year. Hitherto the policy has been to effect increases in taxation only in small and graduated instalments. Consumption has varied from year to year not so much according to the rate of duty as to the general agricultural and material prosperity, but it can safely be assumed that if economic conditions remain the same, an increase in duty, especially a substantial increase, will tend to check consumption. The tax on liquor and drugs in these provinces is much lower than in several other provinces and it has therefore been determined to effect substantial increases in the taxes on both. This and a continued reduction in the number of shops will, it is hoped, result in reducing consumption and checking the growth of intemperance among the labouring classes.

Forests. 7. The need for the fuller development and utilization of the forests has, as was remarked last year, been emphasized by the war, and the year witnessed a remarkable expansion of forest activity which augurs well for the future. Gross revenue rose by over Rs. 9 lakhs, most kinds of produce contributing to the increase. A separate branch for the better utilization of the raw products and their development for the market has been formed and the results so far are very promising. The quality of the tar produced from chir has been considerably improved and the chir tar work may now be considered to have passed out of the purely experimental stage. The tar is admitted to be equal to Stockholm tar and a market for a large quantity is assured. A new resin distillery on the most modern lines is being erected at Bareilly, the plant at Bhowali being out of date and worn-out. As the outturn of resin in Kumaun has quadrupled in the past seven years in spite

of the check imposed by the inefficiency of the old distillery, the outlook for the industry is most hopeful. Large quantities of sleepers were supplied to the Munitions Board and railways for war purposes, and other forest products such as resin and turpentine, the demand for which has been accentuated by the reduction in imports, were manufactured on a large scale. An indent from the Army for 50,000 tons of baled hay was successfully met by the temporary establishment of a special hay division.

Irrigation.

8. For the Irrigation department the year was comparatively uneventful. With a prolonged monsoon the demand for water generally was not strong and supplies were sufficient on nearly all canals. Good progress was made with the more important works under construction. There was an appreciable increase in the area irrigated, notably in the area under sugarcane and wheat, and the gross revenue from all classes of works continued to expand.

Public Health.

9. The year was not as healthy as 1916. There was some decline in cholera, but the climatic conditions were favourable for the spread of plague and in consequence the winter epidemic was prolonged and the disease did not die out altogether as usual in the hot months. Abnormal rainfall was probably responsible for more malaria than usual, but it is not unlikely that to relapsing fever must be attributed many of the deaths reported as due to "fever." Both the birth and the death rates were above the average. Research work was hindered by the lack of qualified officers and prophylactic measures such as the disinfection of wells with permanganate of potash and the quininization of school children had to be abandoned owing to the scarcity of drugs. The attendance at hospitals and dispensaries continued to increase and much credit is due to the department, which more than any other has suffered from the depletion of its cadre during the war, for the excellent results attained in circumstances of peculiar difficulty.

Co-operative societies.

10. The record of the co-operative societies is disappointing. The continuous elimination of inefficient societies has brought about a falling off both in their total number and in the working capital. The war, high prices and unpropitious agricultural seasons have exercised a cumulative and adverse effect on collections in the societies. A critical point in the movement has been reached and if stagnation is not to give way to decay a vigorous effort will be required. The members of rural societies have as yet only a limited conception of the true co-operative spirit. The movement has an open enemy in the professional money-lender and there are many landholders who consider it opposed to their interests. There is urgent need of further propaganda work, but the department is at present too under-staffed to attempt it.

Local Self-Government.

11. This was the first year throughout the whole of which the new Municipalities Act was in force and the great majority of the boards were working under non-official chairmen. During the year the final orders of the Secretary of State and of the Government of India were received regarding the replacement of octroi by terminal taxation. Under these orders it will be possible to enlarge very greatly the scope of terminal taxation. Boards generally have suffered no diminution of income and have been compelled owing to war conditions to economise in expenditure. The finances of most boards are, therefore, satisfactory, but in some the reverse is the case. There is a tendency to increase expenditure without making

adequate provision for a corresponding increase in revenue. On several boards the spirit of faction still prevails with injurious effect on the municipal administration. In one municipality this resulted in the resignation of the non-official chairman and the board then requested Government to appoint an official chairman. The maintenance of a double record of proceedings by different parties on a board is not unknown. Such blots on municipal administration will only be removed when members realise in greater measure their responsibility to their constituents and the electorate become more critical of the action of their representatives.

For the district boards the year was comparatively uneventful. Their work presents no features of special interest, their activities in most directions being restricted by war conditions. Steps were taken towards the expansion of primary education and expenditure under this head increased by over Rs. 3 lakhs. The opening of salt dépôts by the boards for the sale of salt to the public at fair prices was taken in hand at the close of the year, but only one board started an organization during the year and criticism must be reserved. The question of the constitution and functions of district boards is at present under the consideration of the Government and the prospect of early legislation which will confer upon them far greater powers than they at present possess is looked forward to.

Education.

12. The measures outlined in 1914 for the re-organisation of primary education were finally sanctioned in 1916. The results during the year 1917 are statistically somewhat disappointing. An increase in expenditure from all sources of over five lakhs has resulted in a rise in the number of scholars in public institutions of 26,513, while private institutions show a decline of 3,141. The conditions, however, were unfavourable, epidemics which always seriously affect the attendance in primary schools prevailing in most parts of the province throughout the year; further, the effects of a large increase in the number of teachers—one of the main features of the 1914 scheme—cannot be expected to be visible for some years to come. Since the close of the year the policy approved in 1914 has been reconsidered in certain respects; rules considered likely to restrict expansion have been cancelled and developments which contemplate doubling the number of scholars within three years have been foreshadowed. The year witnessed a steady increase in the number of secondary public schools and of the scholars therein. The examination results, however, were poor. For this various causes have been adduced, but this much at least is clear that the quality of the teaching leaves much to be desired, and that a radical improvement in the training and attainments of the teachers is a condition precedent to any effective advance in the sphere of secondary education. Amongst the depressed classes education is making little headway. Their own interest in the subject is slight and further progress is largely dependent on the economic conditions which can only slowly change. As regards female education there is nothing to add to the remarks in last year's report. The project for an Anglo-Vernacular boarding school at Lucknow has been held up owing to the war, and the extent of the demand for education amongst the middle classes still awaits the test which this experiment should furnish. The special scheme for the extension of vernacular education amongst Muhammadans has now been in operation for two years. On the whole the progress achieved has been satisfactory. In general Muhammadans seem to

be holding their own and in some districts they are even progressing more rapidly than Hindus. Owing to the scarcity of materials, building operations were much restricted during the year, and the continuance of the war rendered it impossible to take in hand the expansion of the inspecting staff, a reform now long overdue.

Provincial finance.

13. A continuance in all departments of a policy of caution and economy resulted in a further large increase in the provincial balance which was more than twelve times the prescribed minimum of 20 lakhs at the close of the year. Rather more than one-fifth of this balance, however, included balances of special grants received from the Government of India and ear-marked for education, sanitation, agricultural developments and general administration. The budget was framed in the same spirit as last year and as last year, for reasons which it was impossible to foresee at the time of its preparation, the forecasts on which it was based proved to have been unduly pessimistic. It anticipated a small deficit of less than a lakh on the year's transactions, while the actual figures showed a surplus of over 52 lakhs. A year of general prosperity more than counterbalanced adverse conditions otherwise and revenue continued steadily to expand, while it was found possible to carry economy and retrenchment beyond the limits originally anticipated. The land revenue came in well; the expansion of forest activity and the demand for forest products that has been stimulated by the war led to a large increase in forest revenue; increased duties and favourable economic conditions raised the excise receipts; the income from irrigation rose with the area irrigated and enhanced rates and good profits swelled the receipts from income-tax. The unexpected reductions in expenditure were almost entirely due to circumstances peculiar to the year or to the enforcement of economy. The deputation to military duty of many officials caused a considerable reduction in establishment charges and the saving under stationery and printing was not much less. Large allotments under the head of agriculture and Public Works had necessarily to lapse owing to the difficulty of obtaining plant. While the year's financial results imply the continuance of the serious retardation of the normal progress of expenditure in nearly every department, they also show that the province did its utmost by husbanding its resources to strengthen the financial position of the country and to assist the Imperial Government in its difficulties in connection with war finance during this critical period.

The War.

14. Allusion has already been made to the various ways, such as the provision of hay and bhusa and timber and the deputation of officers to military duty, in which the provinces endeavoured to assist indirectly in the prosecution of the war. The efforts made in the year 1916-17 to give direct assistance were intensified during the year under review. In June, 1917 a War Board was constituted under the presidency of Mr. (now Sir) John Campbell, and to this body was entrusted the co-ordination of the various war activities of the provinces. The success achieved by the new organization exceeded all expectations. The recruiting rate for combatants and non-combatants was soon doubled, and by the close of March, 1918 the provinces had raised 57,771 combatants and nearly 30,000 non-combatants. The basis of recruitment was broadened by appealing to classes not previously considered to be of military value, and the response from the Ahirs, Kumaun Rajputs and Hill Brahmans was most satisfactory. The subscriptions of the

provinces to the first Indian War Loan amounted in the main section to Rs. 3,21,32,300 and Rs. 2,17,83,017 in the postal section, or a total of Rs. 5,39,15,317. It is not possible to state the precise amount received by the various charities during the year, but it is estimated that the total up to date has been not far short of a crore of rupees. In the course of the war a spirit of provincialism has been awakened and developed in a manner without precedent in the history of the province. Hindustan is still intensely conservative, but there are not wanting signs that new hopes have been kindled and larger aspirations. The old fighting spirit is not dead. The outlook for the future would be brighter if divisions and differences between the several communities could be composed.

PART II.

DEPARTMENTAL CHAPTERS.

CHAPTER I.—PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

1—Physical features, area, climate, and chief staples.

(See pages 1 to 6 of the report for 1911-12.)

2—Political.

(For details see the annual reports on the administration of the Rampur, Tehri and Benares States.)

RAMPUR.

Revenue administration.

1. The improvement in the financial position of the state noted in last year's report continued. Collections were better by about Rs. 2·6 lakhs than last year, but as the demand had also risen by the same amount the balance unrealised was the same as last year, Rs. 7·9 lakhs. The Land Revenue demand rose from Rs. 32 to Rs. 35 lakhs, exoluding arrears.

General.

2. The Rampur Imperial Service Infantry returned in March 1918, after 3½ years' service in East Africa. The Officer Commanding the regiment received messages of appreciation of their services from His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief and the General Officer Commanding the British Forces in East Africa. The regiment was granted a 10 per cent. increase of pay by His Highness and a reward of one month's pay for each year's service at the front. His Highness' eldest son has been appointed a Colonel of this regiment.

Agriculture.

3. There was no improvement in agricultural conditions. The year opened with a poor harvest due to the excessive rains of the previous monsoon and the prospects of a good rabi were spoilt by heavy winter rains, while again the heavy rains of September 1917 damaged the kharif, though the total rainfall for the year was only 43·2 inches against 56·8 in the previous year.

General condition of the people.

4. Prices remained high, but as there was little demand for agricultural labour the wages of agricultural labourers declined. In the city there was a steady demand both for skilled and unskilled labour and wages there underwent no marked change. The rise in the birth-rate from 174 to 188·9 per ten thousand and a decline in the death-rate would seem to indicate that there was on the whole little distress. The number of tenants who left the state slightly exceeded the number of immigrants.

Excise.

5. Increase in the duty is evidently responsible for the decrease in consumption of country liquor and opium. The consumption of country liquor was 24,676 gallons as against 29,573 last year. The amount, however, is still nearly 3,000 gallons more than the amount consumed in 1915. The consumption of opium fell from 47 to 44 maunds. As regards charas there was little change. The demand rose under all three heads, the increases being respectively Rs. 10,083, Rs. 1,007 and Rs. 1,247 in country liquor, opium, and charas, the chief cause being the increase in the duty. The total arrears at the close of the year amounted to Rs. 8,687 against Rs. 10,301 last year.

Police

6. The only satisfaction to be derived from a perusal of the police statistics of serious crime is in the decrease in the number of dacoities, from 13 to 8. All other heads show an increase. The 77 successful convictions obtained under section 110, Criminal Procedure Code, are perhaps not unconnected with the decline in dacoity though the general increase otherwise and the much larger number of convicts admitted to the jail than last year is not very encouraging. The chief increase was in burglary and theft, this being no doubt partly due to the pressure of high prices.

Medical.

7. Public health generally was good. Despite a certain amount of plague and cholera there was again a fall in the number of deaths and a rise in the number of births.

Education.

8. There was no change in the number of schools, but the number of scholars again fell from 4,734 to 4,572. 23 students were sent up for the Allahabad Matriculation Examination, of whom only 7 passed. 20 students from the Arabic College obtained degrees of the Punjab University in Oriental learning out of 37 sent up.

TEHRI.

9. Mr. G. B. F. Muir, I.C.S., continued to occupy the position of President of the Council of Regency. The ordinary income of the state was Rs. 9·47 lakhs, an increase of Rs. 1·47 lakhs. To this has to be added Rs. 1·24 lakhs accruing chiefly from repayment of debts. Expenditure under all heads, including extraordinary expenditure, was Rs. 10·42 lakhs. The rainfall was generally untimely and damaged both crops, which resulted in some degree of scarcity in the most affected tracts, relief being afforded by grain takavi and the opening of famine relief works. Prices and wages continued high. There was little epidemic disease, only five cases of cholera occurring in the town and the general health was good. Work on the land settlement continued, though somewhat less was spent on it than last year. Work on the revision of the forest settlement has been begun. There was no change in the number of village schools. Enrolment fell somewhat. There was a considerable decrease in the number of boys at the Hewett Sanskrit Pathshala which is attributed to the opening of a vernacular middle school and to general lack of interest in the Sanskrit language. There was also a slight fall in the enrolment at the Pratap High School.

BENARES STATE.

10. The steady expansion of the revenue has been the special feature of the administration. The total receipts of the State were Rs. 21·3 lakhs, or a lakh more than in the previous year when the receipts included 3 lakhs borrowed for financing irrigation schemes. This year's total includes a sum of Rs. 1,90,000 which was borrowed from the Bank of Bengal for the purchase of War Bonds. Similarly, the Rs. 22 lakhs of expenditure include a like amount so invested. The balance was reduced from Rs. ·88 to ·25 lakhs. Public works continued to absorb a very considerable portion of the state's income. The year on the whole was again a favourable one for agriculture, though the kharif was somewhat affected by excess of rain. A good rabi and a twelve-anna kharif were, however, sufficient to effect a further fall in prices. Plague continued its ravages in Bhadohi, 2,997 persons falling victims to it. The state was free from any other epidemic and in other respects public health was good.

There was a slight increase in crime, chiefly under the heads of burglary and theft. Some difficulty was experienced in the working of the Criminal Tribes Act, but the work of the police on the whole appears to have improved.

The number of vernacular schools increased from 73 to 75 and the number of scholars from 6,414 to 7,079. Extensions to the Lovett High School were completed during the year. As regards female education there is still "an almost universal lack not only of enthusiasm but even of interest in the subject." All main irrigation works under construction were completed during the year.

Six hundred and twenty-nine men were admitted to the Lady Chelmsford War Hospital during the year. Recruiting was placed on a better footing and His Highness in addition to subscribing 2 lakhs to the War Loan presented an aeroplane to the Government.

3—Historical Summary.

4—Form of administration.

5—Character of land tenure, and system of survey and settlement.

6—Civil divisions of British territory.

7—Details of last census, tribes, and language.

(For sections 3 to 7 see pages 8 to 41 of the report for the year 1911-12.)

8—Changes in administration.

11. The Hon'ble Sir James Scorgie Meston, K.C.S.I., reassumed charge of the provinces from the Hon'ble Mr. John Mitchell Holms, C.S.I., on June 3rd, 1917, and held charge till February 15th, 1918, when he was succeeded by the Hon'ble Sir Spencer Harcourt Butler, K.C.S.I., C.I.E.

9—Relations with tributary states and frontier affairs.

12. No boundary disputes were settled during the year. The settlement of disputes between the Etawah district and the Gwalior state, the Saharanpur district and the Kalsia state, the Tehri-Garhwal state and the Bashahr state, and between the Hamirpur district and the Chhaturpur state was in progress.

10—Condition of the people.

(For details see the annual report on the revenue administration by the Board of Revenue for the year ending the 30th September, 1917.)

Season and crops.

13. After the unusually long and steady monsoon of 1916 the cold weather rainfall was rather below average, and was not very well distributed, local storms for the most part prevailing. In spite of this the 1917 rabi was a good one. The area under crops rose by over 3½ per cent. and exceeded the normal by 9 per cent. Many tracts which had been flooded the previous monsoon had received a deposit of silt which gave an excellent rabi crop by way of compensation. The increase was common to all divisions except Gorakhpur, Lucknow and Fyzabad, being perhaps most noticeable in Bundelkhand, which thus completely recovered from the disastrous famine year of 1913-14. The harvest, taken all round, was quite satisfactory, being especially good in Rohilkhand, Allahabad and Bundelkhand. The 1917 monsoon was again in excess of the normal but was more irregular and less evenly distributed. Floods as in 1916 caused damage in some districts. The kharif area again rose but the yield was, with the exception of rice, considerably below the normal. The areas under rice and cotton again appreciably increased while there was a further remarkable increase in the area under indigo. The yield of early rice was inferior to that of the previous year but that of the late rice left little to be desired. The cotton crop was one of the poorest for many years. The area under sugarcane declined and the crop was rather disappointing. There was a general complaint of shortage of seed and the crop suffered from various disasters. The provinces were, however, remarkably free from widespread calamities and on the whole the year was one of agricultural prosperity.

Prices, trade and health.

14. In consequence of the comparatively good harvests food-grains were cheaper than in the preceding year, though prices still remained high. Wheat varied from 10·62 seers to the rupee in June to 8·4 in December as compared with 10 and 7·75 seers the lowest and highest prices respectively of the previous year. Barley stood at 13·57 seers in November, and at 15·8 in August as compared with 11 and 15·25 the previous year. The price of both cotton and gur was high and the dearness of cotton was severely felt by the poorer classes. The improvement in trade which had begun in the previous year continued but was again still below the volume prior to the scarcity of 1913-14. There was an increase in imports of roughly 30 lakhs of maunds, consisting chiefly of coal, coke and salt, while exports declined by nearly a lakh of maunds. The import of coal and coke was the largest on record, an indication of growing industrial activity. There was a distinct decrease in the imports of food-grains and pulse as a result of fair harvests. The export of wheat decreased from 76 to 50 lakhs of maunds. In other grains, however, the export trade was brisk, especially in barley and gram. Cawnpore again had a prosperous year. The general health of the people, except in the Kumaun and Fyzabad divisions, was not so good as in the previous year, being adversely affected by the excessive wet. Plague claimed many more victims than in 1915-16, more especially in the eastern districts and parts of Oudh. Cholera, on the other hand, declined and caused

only 15,287 deaths as compared with 82,501 in that year. Generally the provinces were free from any epidemic calculated to disorganise trade or interrupt agriculture, high prices were obtained for agricultural products and the general condition of the people was satisfactory.

CHAPTER II.—ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

11—Realization of the Land Revenue.

(*For details see the annual report on the revenue administration of the Board of Revenue for the year ending the 30th September*, 1918.)

Total demand and collection.

15. Out of a total demand of 902 lakhs on account of land revenue, cesses and rates, Rs. 883¾ lakhs were collected and Rs. ½ lakh were remitted, leaving a balance of Rs. 17¾ lakhs. The latter included Rs. 3½ lakhs of land revenue and Rs. 3½ lakhs of takavi suspended and Rs. 9 lakhs of takavi outstanding under Acts XII and XIX.

Land revenue.

16. The demand under land revenue was Rs. 661 lakhs of which Rs. 657 lakhs were collected. The greater part of the balance continued under suspension from the previous year, Muttra accounting for over Rs. 3 lakhs and Agra for Rs. 40,000. Remissions for the year were small. The real balance outstanding at the close of the year was only Rs. 38,661.

Rates.

17. There was a considerable decrease in the demand for occupier's rates from Rs. 98·4 lakhs to Rs. 90·9, due to the early and favourable monsoon. The demand fell considerably in the Meerut, Agra, Allahabad and Jhansi divisions but there was an increase of over a lakh in the Rohilkhand division, due partly to the delay in the winter rains and to an increase in cultivation in Pilibhit and partly to increased canal rates. Of the total enforceable demand of Rs. 92·5 lakhs, 99·8 per cent. was actually collected, Rs. 6,144 were remitted in Muttra and only Rs. 12,819 were left outstanding, a considerable improvement on the balance of the previous year. The total realizable demand for owner's rates fell from Rs. 1,15,838 to Rs. 1,14,889 and all was collected except Rs. 574.

Advances.

18. The total sum advanced under the Agricultural Loans and Improvements Acts was small as compared with recent years, being only Rs. 12·67 lakhs as against Rs. 27·31 in 1915-16 and Rs. 42·87 in 1914-15. The decrease was due to the very fair harvests of the year under report and the previous generally favourable seasons. By far the greater part of the Rs. 7·64 lakhs advanced under Act XII went to Muttra where rainfall was again short, to certain of the Bundelkhand districts where heavy rainfall had done damage and to a few districts where the monsoon floods had swept away the kharif crops along the Ganges and Jumna valleys. The greater part of the provinces took very little and a number of districts nothing at all.

Similarly, under Act XIX transactions were small, only Rs. 5·03 lakhs being advanced against Rs. 6·47 in the previous year. For this the heavy rainfall, dearness of materials owing to the war and the need for husbanding public funds were the causes chiefly responsible. Of the total Jaunpur took no less than two lakhs, the Agra division one lakh and Meerut half a lakh, so that the average amount taken by the districts was small. During the year 2,783 new masonry wells were completed and 3,796 were under construction, while 288 were repaired; 127 embankments were constructed and 73 more were under construction; 10 new tanks were built, two were under construction and 10 were repaired. The supply of pumping machinery was, as last year, handicapped by lack of materials. Under Act XII over three lakhs were given for seed and a like amount for cattle.

Under Act XII after deducting postponements and suspensions amounting to Rs. 2·51 lakhs there were Rs. 30·78 lakhs left for collection, of which 84 per cent. was realized as compared with 90 per cent. in 1915-16. This low percentage is due to the excessive overdue balances in Agra and Etah. Under Act XIX the net demand was Rs. 1,04,807 of which 90 per cent. was collected, an improvement on the previous year, when only 85 per

cent. was collected. Agra was the principal defaulter, only Rs. 1,067 out of Rs. 7,482 being collected there.

19. There was a definite drop in coercive processes from the high level of 1914-15, when they numbered 213,513. This year they totalled 190,640, a fall of 10 per cent. For this several causes appear to have been responsible, of which the chief were the continuance of better harvests and a disappearance of the feeling of uncertainty engendered by the war. The decrease was shared by all heads except attachments, sales and transfers of immoveable property, sales of moveable property and annulments of settlement. The increase in attachments from 267 to 301 was due mainly to Muttra, where there were 89, 78 being on account of canal dues. Sales of immoveable property rose from 12 to 21 and of immoveable property from 1,731 to 1,805. Annulments numbered three, all in Banda. There were none the previous year. Coercive processes.

12—Settlements.

20. The settlement of the Allahabad district was confirmed by the Government during the year, and settlement operations were formally closed. Work continued satisfactorily in Gorakhpur, Basti and Bulandshahr, where revision of the records was almost completed and considerable progress was made with the actual assessment. A portion of the Azamgarh district which had been transferred to it from Gorakhpur after the last settlement of the latter district was brought under record and settlement operations. A satisfactory beginning was made with the revision of records in Saharanpur and the work of inspection preliminary to assessment was started. Preliminary steps for the correction of maps and revision of records in the Muzaffarnagar district, the settlement of which expires in 1921, have been taken, a re-settlement having been decided upon. The Settlement Commissioner continued to supervise operations and decide appeals.

21. Case work increased considerably, especially in Gorakhpur and Basti. In the western charge of the former district there were over 26,000 cases for disposal and nearly 19,000 in the eastern. Despite the appointment of additional assistant record officers nearly 11,000 cases remained for disposal at the close of the year in the one tract and nearly 10,000 in the other. In Basti where the total number for disposal was over 15,000, over 6,000 were pending at the close of the year: In Bulandshahr there were over 10,000 cases for disposal but less than 4,000 in Saharanpur. Altogether there were over 75,000 cases for disposal as compared with some 43,000 in the previous year. Appeals also increased considerably, especially in western Gorakhpur. Case work.

22. The expenditure during the year in the five districts under settlement amounted to Rs. 4,83,086. Cost of settlement operations.

13—Land Records.

23. A change was made in the system designed to provide supervisor kanungos for service in the Naini Tal Tarai. While ordinary candidates for employment in the Tarai will continue to be trained as before it is proposed to train also selected local patwaris in one of the adjacent plains districts and make them eligible for appointments in the Tarai and Bhabar. Establishment.

24. One patwari was promoted to be a sadr kanungo; six were appointed as assistant registrar kanungos; one was appointed a partition amin. Several officiated in these posts. There was a further slight rise in the percentage of patwaris who hold the school certificate, and a slight decrease in the percentage of those exempted and unpassed. In order to make the scholarships granted to the residents of the hilly tracts in the Allahabad and Mirzapur districts as an inducement to attend the patwari schools more attractive their amount has been raised in Mirzapur and the amount of security taken in Allahabad has been halved, while funds have been provided for the construction in Mirzapur of a new school building with a boarding house. Results in the half-yearly examinations have improved. The new patwari school at Almora, the special object of which is to train Patwaris.

candidates for service in the hills, is working satisfactorily. The percentage of resident patwaris rose from 82 to 83·5.

Kanungos.

25. One sadr kanungo was approved for tahsildarship. Five supervisor kanungos were promoted to be sadr kanungos; three others were confirmed as naib tahsildars and seven were selected as approved candidates for that post. Thirty-two supervisors officiated as naib tahsildars and five as extra takavi naib tahsildars; the services of one was lent to the Court of Wards as sarbarahkar and another was appointed to officiate as assistant survey expert.

Revision of circles.

26. The readjustment of patwaris' circles and salaries in the Kaswar Raja pargana of the Benares district, which was sanctioned in 1915, was carried out. A redistribution of work in certain patwari circles of the Ballia district was sanctioned. There were other small changes.

Testing of papers.

27. For the provinces as a whole the prescribed minimum standard of test by supervisors was exceeded in the case of all the records. Omitting districts under record or settlement operations the only districts in which the amount of the work fell short of the standard were Bijnor and Kheri, due in the one case to the slackness of certain kanungos and in the other to floods. There was an increase in the amount of testing done by superior officers, the only notable decrease being in Etah, Cawnpore and Sitapur, for which adequate reasons have been furnished. There is still, however, a tendency to devote too much attention to untested entries and "re-testing" requires greater attention from superior officers.

Maps, records and boundary marks.

28. Special attention was paid to the question of the degree of accuracy which was being obtained in the revision of the records in the Gorakhpur district. While there is reason to believe that the degree of accuracy reached as high a standard as possible under the present law collusion between zamindars and tenants is widespread and little improvement can be expected in such a district until the law is amended. Generally the condition of maps is reported to be good and necessary measures for keeping them up to date were taken. The condition of boundary marks was also reported to be good and necessary action was taken for their repair or renewal. Work in connection with the experimental scheme of fixing permanent boundary marks in alluvial areas in the Ballia district was completed during the year.

Concealment of rents.

29. Concealment of rent is reported from four districts and in two others it was suspected. The practice of taking nazrana at the time of renewal of leases is mentioned as being generally prevalent in Hardoi, Kheri, Partabgarh and Bara Banki.

14—Waste Lands.

30. There is nothing of importance to record.

15—Government Estates.

(For details as regards minor estates and Dudhi, see the annual report on the revenue administration by the Board of Revenue for the year ending the 30th September, 1917, and for the Government estates in the Kumaun division, see the separate reports for the year ending the 31st March, 1918.)

Minor estates.

31. Twenty new properties were acquired and 40 were released or sold, leaving 543 under the management of the Board. Of these 186 are in Bundelkhand and 210 in Oudh. The current demand increased by Rs. 8,793 chiefly owing to earnest monies received for timber contracts and better prices of lac. Collections improved from 90 to 95 per cent. and the outstanding balances fell from Rs. 40,228 to Rs. 19,015 of which Rs. 2,023 are reported to be irrecoverable. Over half the recoverable arrears belong to Agra and Ghazipur.

Dudhi.

32. As the result of a very favourable season the Dudhi estate was for the third time able to report cent. per cent. collections, and the income increased. New construction continued to be postponed but existing buildings and roads were kept in good order and a useful escape weir was

added to the Lakra bandh. Education charges increased owing to improvement effected in the standard of the estates schools.

Tarai Bhabar estates.

33. Rainfall was almost continuous in the Tarai and Bhabar from April to October, but there was little in the cold weather. Heavy showers in April and May did considerable damage to the wheat crops before their removal from the threshing floor and in the following months the monsoon interfered somewhat with rice sowings. The working of the year resulted in a surplus of Rs. 2,56,462 which with Rs. 67,060 land revenue made the total credited to Government Rs. 3,23,522. The decline from last year's figures is accounted for by an increase of over Rs. 50,000 in expenditure which is due to various causes. Gross receipts increased by Rs. 5,681, the increase being almost entirely due to the increase in income from Forests. In cash rents there was a decrease of Rs. 16,431. General health improved, births rising from 4,033 to 4,238 and deaths falling from 8,519 to 7,755. The Tarai had much the better record than the Bhabar which suffered more from cholera. Malarial fever was prevalent in both regions and quinine was more liberally distributed than in the previous year. Three travelling dispensaries were employed for the greater part of the year. Three stationary dispensaries had unfortunately to be closed owing to the military demands for medical assistants. Compounders have since been appointed in their places.

Garhwal-Bhabar estates.

34. The total demand for the year in the Garhwal-Bhabar estates was Rs. 34,333 as against Rs. 31,660 in the previous year. The whole demand was collected in full before the close of the year. Gross receipts increased from Rs. 32,475 to Rs. 34,333, due to the increase in the rental demand and other heads. The total expenditure rose from Rs. 18,541 to Rs. 27,768, this large increase being mainly due to a special grant sanctioned for the diversion of the Right Malan canal. The tenants had another prosperous year. The kharif was good but the rabi was somewhat affected by the prolonged drought in the cold weather. There was an increase of some 220 acres in the cultivated area. The year was generally healthy and the death-rate only slightly exceeded the figures of last year.

16—Wards' estates.

(For details see the annual report on the operations of the Court of Wards for the year ending the 30th September, 1917.)

Number of estates under the Court.

35. During the year 182 estates were under the management of the Court of Wards. The important Tirwa and Dube estates, whose combined rental demand is over six lakhs, were released, together with 16 others of less importance, and the charge of six with a rental of only Rs. 48,900 was assumed.

Estates taken over or released.

36. The debts of the released estates were in nearly every case paid off during the period of management. No important estates were taken over, and the total debts of the new estates were only about Rs. 1·52 lakhs.

Financial.

37. The gross receipts amounted to Rs. 151 lakhs. The main items of expenditure were Government revenue 47 lakhs, maintenance and education of wards 23 lakhs, and payment of debts 37 lakhs. Management charges accounted for 11 lakhs and works of improvement 7 lakhs. Over 15 lakhs were invested as compared with only 4 lakhs in the previous year, and of this total over 10 lakhs were invested in War funds, in addition to which the wards of the Nanpara estate also invested over two lakhs. Except in the difficulty of effecting sales the tightness of money was little felt, and no large demands were made during the year for loans.

Rent collections.

38. Collections of the current and arrear demands amounted to Rs. 113 and 4·5 lakhs respectively. The percentage of collections on the current demand is 94·7 per cent, as compared with 95 the year before. In most divisions the precentage of collections improved, the exceptions being Allahabad and Jhansi, where the fall is accounted for by the release of certain estates, notably the Tirwa estate, the impending release affecting both the readiness of the tenants to pay and the energy of the collecting staff.

The collections on account of arrear demands were some 7 per cent. better than last year.

Land revenue.

39. Payments on account of land revenue, cesses and rates totalled 47·17 lakhs, a charge of 39 per cent. on the current rental demand, and of 42 per cent. on the current rental collections.

Cost of management.

40. The total cost of management again amounted to 11 lakhs and the percentage was 8·6 of the gross income as compared with 8·5 of the year before.

Repayment of debts.

41. The debts of all estates, including those of estates assumed or released, during the year fell from 166 to 146 lakhs. New loans to replace old were raised for some seven lakhs and sale-proceeds made a further reduction in debt of about nine lakhs, approximately 21 lakhs being paid from surplus profits.

Improvements.

42. Expenditure on improvements fell from 8·3 to 7·46 lakhs, the decrease of nearly a lakh being due to some extent to difficulties in procuring material. There was a considerable rise in the total number of wells constructed, but the Majhauli estate in the Gorakhpur district accounted for nearly half the total number and the majority of districts reported that owing to the abundant rainfall less interest was taken in well construction than in the previous year. Projects for pumping from rivers and tanks had necessarily to be postponed for lack of pumping plant. Considerable success is reported in the introduction of improved varieties of crops and the institution of seed dépôts for their distribution. Arboriculture and roads are receiving more attention. Practically no new departures are recorded in the matter of stock and breeding operations.

Sanitation and education.

43. Expenditure on sanitation and medical aid rose by some Rs. 9,000, this being due largely to subscriptions amounting to Rs. 8,000 to the Dufferin Hospital Building Fund. The number of dispensaries remained unchanged and they are reported to have done well. The bulk of the expenditure consisted of subscriptions and grants to medical institutions and the pay of vaccinators. The total expenditure on education amounted to Rs. 83,000, or about the same as last year. Of this Rs. 15,200 took the form of subscriptions to educational institutions which are likely only to affect the tenantry indirectly. The schools are generally reported to be flourishing, though one girls' school had to be closed owing to lack both of pupils and of a suitable teacher.

Agricultural banks.

44. Little improvement appears to have been effected in the condition of the Agricultural banks on the estates. Difficulties are reported in connection with the relations of the subordinate staff and the co-operative societies, though they do not appear to be insuperable.

Litigation.

45. Generally managers appear to have paid regard to the wishes of the Board and to have reduced litigation as much as possible, though there is probably still room for improvement in this respect. The Court of Wards defended ten and was plaintiff in four civil suits exceeding Rs. 10,000 in valuation during the year. Of these only one was entirely lost, one was partly lost, two were compromised, four were won and in another the decision was mainly in favour of the Court of Wards. Five were pending at the end of the year. Of the 30 appeals ten were decided entirely and one partly in its favour; two decrees were adverse and 17 remained pending.

Accounts.

46. The accounts of 123 estates were audited during the year. Generally results were satisfactory, but in several districts room for improvement and need of closer supervision is apparent. Four cases of dishonesty were detected during the year.

General.

47. On the whole, the activities of the Court of Wards have been little hampered by the continuance of the war. Considerable assistance was given by the estates in various ways. About 20 lakhs were subscribed by the Court and its tenantry to War Funds. The Awah, Nanpara and Sitapur estates supplied bhusa to the Army, and since the establishment of the War Board the estates have taken an active part in recruiting

17—Revenue and rent-paying classes.

(For details see the annual report on the revenue administration by the Board of Revenue for the year ending 30th September, 1917.)

Tenancy litigation, Agra.

48. The total volume of litigation still remained very high, compared with the figures of 1912-14, but there was a drop of 15,847 cases from the figures of 1916, the total of new institutions being 447,139 as compared with 462,986 in that year. The continuance of litigation at its present high level is mainly attributable to the large number of rent suits and the consequent applications for ejectment in execution of decrees. It appears also that notwithstanding good seasons and high prices for produce tenants were still backward in paying their rents and clung to their money until the pressure of suits was applied.

Suit for arrears of rent and ejectment for arrears.

49. Arrears of rent suits numbered 211,816 as compared with 226,983 in 1916, the decrease being due generally to favourable harvests coupled with high prices. It was general except in the Gorakhpur division and in Jhansi, Dehra Dun, Muttra, Mirzapur and Ghazipur. Applications for ejectment for decreed arrears decreased from 62,252 to 56,261, a decrease being found in all divisions except Jhansi and in all districts except nine. Ejectment was actually ordered in 11,390 cases as compared with 11,796, a slight decrease of under 4 per cent., but the proportion of ejectments ordered to the number of applications remained about the same. The areas from which occupancy and non-occupancy tenants were ejected totalled 41,032 and 6,888 acres as compared with 45,053 and 6,324 acres respectively the previous year.

Enhancement of rent.

50. Suits for enhancement numbered 17,373 or 1,426 less than the previous year, a decline of 8 per cent. All divisions showed decreases except Jhansi and Benares. For the most part the decreases occurred in districts where either settlement operations had recently concluded or were still proceeding or were about to begin, or where decennial periods since settlement were expiring.

Relinquishments.

51. Relinquishments rose by 945 from 10,254 to 11,199. There was a large increase of 1,204 in Rohilkhand due partly to local causes such as surrender of waterlogged areas in Khadir and other tracts.

Ejectments other than for arrears.

52. There was a record number of ejectments other than for arrears, the total being 126,133 as compared with 119,791 in 1915-16 and 122,867 in 1914-15, which was the highest number previously recorded. The increase was in all divisions except Agra and Gorakhpur ; in the latter it is attributable to the revision of records and settlement operations in the Gorakhpur district ; for the decrease in Agra no very obvious reason is forthcoming. The decrease in the previous year was more than accounted for by Gorakhpur alone, and it is clear that the normal tendency of these suits is to increase. Of the 120,155 suits disposed of ejectment was actually ordered in 92,912 cases, the percentage being 77 as in 1915-16. The area from which ejectment was ordered increased from 225,171 to 239,457 acres.

Protected area.

53. The gross area protected from arbitrary ejectment either by recorded occupancy rights or by twelve years' continuous holding again increased by 53,417 acres to 13,823,742 acres. The tenants' area on leases for seven years or more also again increased by 36,398 acres to 929,068 acres. The whole protected tenants' area increased by 89,815 acres to 14,752,810 acres and is now over 71 per cent. of the total tenants' area as compared with under 64 per cent. in 1901-02.

Rent litigation in Oudh.

54. Suits or applications under the Oudh Rent Act fell nearly 6 per cent. from 43,941 to 41,536. The decrease in regular suits or applications was shared by all districts except Kheri and Bara Banki and was mainly due to a marked decline, as in Agra, of suits for arrears of rent, these falling 12 per cent. On the other hand, ejectment suits again increased except those for decreed arrears. The increases occurred in Lucknow, Unao, Rae Bareli, Hardoi, Gonda, Bahraich and Bara Banki. In general the continued increase was due to the same causes as last year—the desire of the landholders to take advantage of the favourable agricultural position and the growing vogue of nazrana brought about by increasing competition for land among tenants coupled with the restrictions of the Oudh law as to rents.

Rent court work.

55. The year opened with a pending file of 133,791 suits and applications in Agra to which were added 420,258 new institutions, the grand total for disposal being 554,049 or 42,852 less than in the previous year. Of these 443,565 were disposed of, reducing the balance at the end of the year to 110,484.

In Oudh the total of all cases for disposal was 101,889, of which 99,918 were disposed of, leaving a balance of only 1,971 as compared with the opening balance of 2,195. Appeals to Collectors under the Agra Tenancy Act fell from 4,913 to 4,734. In Oudh under the Rent Act they rose from 1,155 to 1,264. Appeals to Commissioners rose slightly from 8,507 to 8,623, the rise, however, being confined to Oudh. Appeals to Judges rose from 2,025 to 2,172. The percentage of appeals in which the orders of the lower court were wholly upheld by Collectors, Judges and Commissioners were 61, 57 and 67 respectively as compared with 63, 54 and 66 in the previous year. Twenty-nine honorary Assistant Collectors disposed of 19,303 cases, a big drop from the 31,095 of the previous year which is explained by the death or resignation of five gentlemen whose tale of cases had been heavy in previous years. The quality of the work of the honorary Assistant Collectors is uniformly reported to be good.

Mutations in revenue papers.

56. The changes of all kinds in proprietary rights recorded during the year totalled 2,14,353 as compared with 2,19,474 in 1915-16. This small decrease is due to settlement operations in some districts and the completion of special scrutinies in others which had an abnormal number in the previous year, while there is little doubt that the slackness of patwaris in some districts was also a contributory cause. Mutations of all kinds under orders of courts increased by 9 per cent. from 8,687 to 9,511, while sales of revenue-paying lands under orders of courts again increased by over 5 per cent. thus continuing the gradual rise which has been going on in mutations due to these sales for some years past. Mutations other than those due to orders of courts numbered 204,842 a decrease of 5,945. The fall was due wholly to a decrease of 8,723 or 8 per cent. in successions, all other classes, notably redemptions, showing increases. As regards successions there were increases in the Agra, Allahabad and Jhansi divisions, attributed generally to the higher mortality of the year. Decreases were mostly due to inflated figures in the previous years in certain districts such as Fyzabad, Jaunpur, Muzaffarnagar and Budaun owing to special campaigns against incorrect entries or unreported changes.

Partition cases.

57. There was little change in the volume of partition work, the total number of applications for disposal being 9,299 as compared with 9,314, though there was a slight rise in the number of new applications. There was again a fall in the number of cases disposed of from 3,973 to 3,725 and the pending file increased from 5,341 to 5,576. This is due to a shortage of staff owing to the deputation of a number of energetic and experienced officers to war work. An improvement in quality is, however, reported, greater insistence now being laid by the courts upon the condition of compactness.

CHAPTER III.—PROTECTION.

1.—Legislative authority.

58. There are no changes to be recorded under this head.

2.—Course of Legislation.

59. The following Bills were dealt with during the year from 1st April, 1917 to 31st March, 1918:—

(1) The United Provinces Medical Bill, 1916.
(2) The Oudh Settled Estates Bill, 1916.
(3) The United Provinces Local Rates (Amendment) Bill, 1917.
(4) The United Provinces Municipalities (Amendment) Bill, 1917.
(5) The Oudh Amanati Notes Bill, 1917.
(6) The Bundelkhand Encumbered Estates (Amendment) Bill, 1918.

The second report of the select committee on the United Provinces Medical Bill, 1916, was presented on the 2nd April, 1917. It is now Act III of 1917.

The Oudh Settled Estates Bill, 1916, was taken into consideration and passed into law on the 2nd April, 1917. It is now Act V of 1917.

The United Provinces Local Rates (Amendment) Bill, 1917, was introduced into the Council on the 10th April, 1917. The Bill was taken into consideration and passed into law on the 11th April, 1917. It is now Act IV of 1917.

The United Provinces Municipalities (Amendment) Bill, 1917, was introduced into the Council and referred to a select committee on the 1st October, 1917. The report of the select committee was presented on the 6th February, 1918. The Bill was taken into consideration and was passed into law on the 6th February, 1918. It is now Act I of 1918.

The Oudh Amanati Notes Bill, 1917, was introduced into the Council and referred to a select committee on the 12th November, 1917. The report of the select committee was presented on the 3rd April, 1918. The Bill was taken into consideration and passed into law on the 3rd April, 1918. It is now Act III of 1918.

The Bundelkhand Encumbered Estates (Amendment) Bill, 1918, was introduced into Council on the 13th March, 1918. The Bill was taken into consideration and passed into law on the 13th March, 1918. It is now Act II of 1918.

20—Police.

(For details see the annual report on the administration of the Police department for the year ending 31st December, 1917 and the tables under the head "Police" in Part VI—Statistics of British India.)

Crime Statistics.

60. The year on the whole was again a prosperous one and the general prosperity was reflected in a further decline of serious crime. The total number of cognizable cases, including those reported to Magistrates, was 154,853, a decrease of no less than 9,185 from the figures of the previous year and very much the lowest figure recorded in the last five years. The unrest which followed the outbreak of the war had largely subsided in 1917, and the only marked results of the war on police administration were a depleted staff, poor recruitment, further postponement of reforms involving additional expenditure and the presence in many districts of a considerable number of deserters from the new armies, which gave cause for some anxiety. The problem of pay was again considered and a further enhancement has been sanctioned since the close of the year. It is recognised, however, that a final judgement is impossible until normal conditions return. The armed police continued to be the most unpopular branch of the service and resignations numbered no less than 590, or a little over 9 per cent. It is obvious that changes are required and the whole organization of the force is now under consideration.

Investigation.

61. The percentage of convictions to cases investigated fell from 40·0 to 38·8, a return to the ratio of 1914. The decline is variously attributed to the deterioration in the quality of the investigating staff and to the increase in the proportion of cases investigated. Investigation was refused in 20·8 per cent. of the crimes reported, a further drop of 2·3 per cent. since last year. The percentage of refusals varies very greatly in different districts and opinions differ as to what should be considered a reasonable percentage, but the Inspector-General considers that the present tendency is to overdo the number of investigations. The increase is most noticeable in burglary and theft cases, the percentage in burglary cases having risen from 41·5 in 1913 to 59·7 in 1917, and in theft cases from 49·6 to 69·3.

Coin, stamps and notes.

62. The number of true cases relating to coin, stamps and notes fell from 78 to 75; of these 52 were disposed of during the year, 44 ending in conviction.

Murder.

63. Excluding false cases and cases in which murderers committed suicides, the number of murders reported was 710, an increase of 32 and a return to the maximum figures recorded in 1914. The Inspector-General estimates, however, that the actual number of cases in which a conviction was possible was not more than 617 and convictions were obtained in 265 of these. The percentage of convictions in cases sent up for trial increased from 66 to 73. There were two cases of the murder of European ladies. In 18 cases of the murder of infants by their mothers the Local Government reduced the sentences to periods ranging from a year and a half to five years.

Poisioning.

64. Out of 64 true poisoning cases 20 were sent up for trial, convictions resulting in 12. Six cases were attributed to professional poisoners and in two cases previous convicts were again caught committing the offence.

Dacoities.

65. Despite the continuance of the war and an increase in the number of deserters from the Army, there was a satisfactory decrease in the number of dacoity cases from 887 to 767, the first drop since 1913. The decrease in the number of cases in which fire-arms were used from 352 to 311 is also satisfactory. While the western districts, notably Agra (49), Bulandshahr (53) and Moradabad (40) continued to return the highest figures, there was a marked tendency for the centre of disturbance to shift to the east, Gonda, Sitapur and Kheri returning 38, 35 and 30 cases, respectively, and a large increase occurred in the Bundelkhand districts, the number of reports rising from 43 to 73. Local men are considered to be responsible for the great majority of cases, though in some parts of the provinces gangs from Native States have been active. Four dacoities in Agra and one in Mainpuri are reported to have been the work of a famous Garh gang which since the close of the year has been completely broken up as a result of the personal efforts of His Highness the Maharaja Scindia of Gwalior. Several other gangs have also been successfully dealt with, though there are still some notorious bands at large. Out of 199 cases sent up for trial convictions were obtained in 162 as compared with 153 out of 193 in the previous year. Complaints of undue leniency by the courts in dacoity cases are still common.

Robbery, burglary and theft.

66. Robbery differs from dacoity only in degree and it is not therefore surprising to find a decline also in the lesser offence. The number of robberies fell from 936 to 805, while the number of convictions (169) remained the same, the results thus showing a distinct improvement. Gorakhpur (49), Muzaffarnagar (45), Aligarh (42), Meerut (40), Jhansi (36) and Bulandshahr (32) head the list of reported cases. Road robberies and road dacoities are both largely the work of wandering tribes, and there can be little doubt that operations under the Criminal Tribes Act have not been without effect on this class of crime. There was a large drop in the number of burglaries from 66,995 to 61,126, the lowest return in the last seven years, while the number of theft cases reported also decreased, though as it is certain that the majority of petty thefts are not reported, the figures are not a very reliable indication of the extent of this crime. The decrease is attributed mainly to favourable economic conditions, though it is clear some share of the credit may be ascribed to preventive action under the Criminal Procedure Code and the Criminal Tribes Act, for the districts which record the largest decrease in burglary, Bulandshahr, Moradabad, Allahabad, Cawnpore, Fatehpur, Kheri, Unao, Fyzabad and Partabgarh include a group in the centre of the provinces where operations under the Criminal Tribes Act have now been in force for several years. Though the provincial average of detection in burglary cases—seven out of a hundred—remains the same, it is recognized that the system of classification is not perfect and there are grounds for hoping that the efforts now being adopted to put down what has been described as the staple crime of the provinces are not proving fruitless.

Cattle theft.

67. There was a further decline in cattle theft from 4,827 to 4,472, the lowest figure in the last six years. Of the 1,121 cases tried to a conclusion 981 ended in conviction. The reason for the decrease in this crime is not clear. It was suggested last year that the recruitment of Gujars in the Army might have some effect on cattle theft in Meerut, and it is possible that it has done so, for the caste has responded extremely well to the recruiting call.

Meerut, Rohilkhand and Agra are the divisions most affected and it is in these that the decrease is most marked.

Criminal tribes.

68. The number of persons registered outside the settlements rose during the year from 23,623 to 26,040, chiefly by the addition of Pasis and Sansiahs. The population in the Salvation Army settlements increased from 1,713 to 2,250, the new comers being chiefly Doms, Bhatus and Haburas. A set-back occurred at the Cawnpore settlement which supplies labour to the mills owing to an unfortunate outbreak of relapsing fever. But the settlement there has already shown that there are great possibilities of expansion in this direction. The success of the operations against the criminal tribes may be measured by the decline in crime which has been already noticed.

Surveillance.

69. Surveillance work was conducted on the new lines mentioned in last year's report, and this resulted in a general reduction. Ten thousand eight hundred and forty-one new history sheets were opened during the year and 18,506 closed, and there was also a reduction in the number of persons under surveillance. The new system has now received sanction and has come into force since the close of the year.

Finger Print Bureau.

70. Slips received for record at the Finger Print Bureau increased but the elimination of unnecessary slips was taken in hand and the total number of slips on record remains about the same. Work in connection with the registration of criminal tribes is now decreasing and should soon be normal. There was a decrease in the number of slips received for search and in the number of calls for the evidence of experts. Evidence was given in 250 cases; 484 written opinions were furnished and 329 absconders, of whom 297 were members of criminal tribes, were traced during the year.

Absconded offenders.

71. The year opened with 3,424 cases on the register of absconded offenders and closed with 3,090 despite the addition of 1,063 names during the year. The reduction was due to the re-arrest of 800 persons, the death of 25 and the striking off of 572.

Co-operation with Native States.

72. Relations with officials of the neighbouring Native States continued to be cordial everywhere and much assistance was received from them.

Village headmen and chaukidars.

73. The number of village headmen again decreased from 99,462 to 98,655, and there was also a rather large decrease in the number of reports by them. There were two or three instances of conspicuously good work, but on the whole there is no change in the verdict of past years.

Strength and cost of the police.

74. The strength of the regular police was increased by six Deputy Superintendents (temporary appointments to replace gazetted officers going to military duty), seven sub-inspectors and eight constables and decreased by twelve sergeants and three head constables. The total cost of the force, excluding railway police, rose from 90·28 lakhs to 93·22, mainly on account of improvements in the pay of constables and head constables which were sanctioned from the 1st October, 1916. Despite a further increase in the pay of all grades recruiting was poor, the attractions of the Army proving too strong. Under present conditions it appears to be impossible to obtain literate recruits for the rank and file. Resignations increased from 1,662 to 1,804 and desertions from 102 to 132.

Punishments.

75. Twenty-three officers and 317 men were dismissed and 86 officers and 608 men punished. The figures show an increase in punishments compared with those of 1916, but on the whole the discipline of the force has been well maintained.

Armed and mounted force.

76. No less than 590 men resigned from the armed police or a little over 9 per cent. In Ballia and Dehra Dun the percentage was 28 and in several other districts it was over 15. Though escorts decreased in consequence of orders issued last year, there is probably considerable room for further reduction in the volume of work now falling on the force, the whole future of the force is now under examination. The position of the mounted police is, if anything, worse, as despite a special temporary extra allowance there has been a large number of resignations due mainly to the desire of the men to join the cavalry and it has been almost impossible to make any enlistments.

Railway police.

77. The total volume of crime on the railways shows a slight increase. Results of investigations were satisfactory, but the difficulty of preventing thefts in the large good-sheds and yards at the principal junctions is felt and

it is considered that the strength of the force in all sections is inadequate. Fourteen cases of dacoity were reported and there has been a regrettable increase in cases of violence by Indian soldiers travelling on the railways.

Railway accidents.

78. There were no serious accidents and only one important case of obstruction.

Rural police.

79. While the number of chaukidars rewarded shows a considerable increase, the actual amount distributed in rewards remains about the same which shows that there is still a tendency to distribute the rewards in small doles to large numbers, though the policy of giving substantial rewards in all deserving cases appears to be gaining ground.

Training school.

80. 164 students were admitted to the Police Training School during the year. 156 appeared at the final examination of whom 153 passed.

Criminal Investigation Department.

81. 99 inquiries were undertaken by the department during the year, and a number were prosecuted to a successful conclusion. Three cases of theft of Government currency notes were dealt with. A gang of cheats was brought to book in the Bulandshahr district. Several forgery cases were inquired into. Eight false civil suit cases were prosecuted successfully. There was no prosecution for sedition, but the Special Branch was as usual fully employed. Recent disclosures in connection with the Lucknow murder case have shown that the need for vigilance is as great as ever. The securities of two newspapers were forfeited under the Press Act during the year and eight other newspapers received formal warnings for various reasons.

Buildings.

82. Owing to the continuance of the financial stringency the programme for the year was further cut down and only Rs. 1,56,787 was spent on construction. Three police stations and thirteen outposts were built, the balance being spent on married quarters and improvements to existing buildings.

A survey has been made of requirements, though it does not pretend to be complete, and the problem will have to be seriously taken in hand as soon as normal conditions return. A regular programme of new works extending over a period of years seems indicated.

21—Criminal Justice.

(For details see the annual reports on Criminal Justice for the year ending 31st December, 1917 and the tables under the head "Criminal Justice" in Part VI—Statistics of British India.)

AGRA.

General.

83. The total number of sessions divisions remained 18 throughout the year, the creation of the Bulandshahr division having again been postponed on grounds of finance. Temporary additional judges were appointed in four districts. The scheme of investing Subordinate Judges with the powers of Assistant Judges remained in force and use was made of it as need arose.

Number of trials.

84. There was very little variation in the total number of cases reported, the figures being 106,639 as against 106,699 in 1916, and the number of cases returned as true also fell slightly from 75,522 to 74,961; while, however, the number of cases brought to trial dropped from 67,615 to 66,858, the number of persons tried rose from 154,501 to 155,134. In offences coming under the head of hurt there was little variation, but under those affecting the public health and safety there was once more a considerable increase, as also in robbery and dacoity cases. Offences by or relating to public servants fell from 186 to 106, a much more normal state of affairs. On the whole the figures for offences against the person have remained practically stationary, while those for offences against property have slightly decreased. After many years of progressive increase the figures for offences reported under special and local laws at length show a drop, from 67,213 to 64,114; and the number of persons brought to trial and convictions obtained under such Laws are fewer by nearly 6,000 and 5,000 respectively, the explanation of which is doubtful. The decrease in the number of

persons brought to trial under the Criminal Tribes Act was 390 and the Hackney and Stage Carriages Act was responsible for about 700 fewer prosecutions. The Municipalities Act figures were much the same as in the previous year, but show a distinctly larger proportion of convictions. Prosecutions under the Act for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals fell by 409, which is hardly satisfactory in view of the obvious need for greater activity in this direction. There is also room for improvement in the working of the Sanitation Act. The number of persons dealt with under the Workmen's Breach of Contract Act again increased. The percentage of persons convicted to persons under trial fell from 43 to 42 in Magistrates' Courts, but rose from 67 to 71 in Courts of Session. An increase from 20 to 21 is to be noted in the percentage of cases dismissed under section 203 of the Criminal Procedure Code, while there has also been some improvement in the figures showing action taken under section 250 of the same Code, the number of persons fined for making frivolous or vexatious complaints rising from 391 to 499.

Duration of trials.

85. The average duration of cases in all courts again stood at 10 days. The variation between different courts and different districts was as usual very marked. While the average for Stipendiary Special Magistrates was only four days and that for other Stipendiary Magistrates 11, the average for District Magistrates rose from 10 to 19 and for Courts of Session from 38 to 39.

Punishments.

86. One hundred and thirty-six persons were sentenced to death by Sessions Courts as compared with 120 in the previous year. In the case of 73 of these, the sentences were confirmed by the High Court, 21 were released and 30 obtained reduction of sentence. The cases of the remaining 12 were not disposed of during the year. The number of persons sentenced to transportation for life rose from 264 to 400. The total number of persons sentenced to rigorous imprisonment fell from 19,327 to 18,681, the period of imprisonment exceeding seven years in 287 cases as against 190 in 1916. Thus while the total number declined there was a considerable increase in the number of heavy sentences. Whippings fell from 1,805 to 1,695, 135 of the persons sentenced being juveniles.

Appeals and revisions.

87. The number of appellants fell from 18,684 to 18,369 and the number of applicants for revision from 4,328 to 4,153. In 8,798 cases the appeal or application was rejected, in 9,893 the sentence or order was confirmed and in 65 the sentence was enhanced. Proceedings were quashed in 372 cases and 837 were remanded for a fresh trial or further inquiry. The percentage of totally unsuccessful appellants and applicants for revision fell from 72 to 70.

OUDH.

Number of trials.

88. There was a general decrease in the volume of crime during the year. The total number of cases declined by more than 6 per cent. and those returned as true and those brought to trial declined in much the same proportion. The chief decreases related to offences affecting the public health, contempt of the lawful authority of public servants, offences against public tranquillity, theft, hurt and criminal trespass. The only appreciable increase was under the following heads: offences relating to weights and measures, defamation, criminal intimidation and offences affecting life. The number of accused under trial was 85,736, of whom 28,476 were convicted, figures that show little variation from those of last year.

Duration of trials.

89. The average duration of trials was 9·73 days in magisterial and 38·33 in Sessions Courts as compared with 9·46 and 33·67 in 1916.

Punishments.

90. Fifty-eight persons were sentenced to capital punishment as against 55 in 1916. Sentences of transportation again fell from 70 to 50, the fall in the previous year having been from 176. The decline in the number of sentences of whipping from 721 to 500 is also remarkable. The number of persons sentenced to rigorous imprisonment and fine was 5,480 and 19,523 as against 6,101 and 21,608 in 1916.

Appeals and revisions.

91. The total number of appellants and applicants for revision was 5,383 as against 6,110 in 1916. 1,523 appeals or applications were rejected;

in 3,152 the sentences were upheld and in 12 they were enhanced. In 453 cases the lower court's order was modified and in 921 the finding was reversed. Proceedings were quashed in 24 cases, while a new trial or further inquiry was ordered in 182 as compared with 30 and 337 respectively in 1916.

22—Prisons.

(For details see the annual report on the Jail department for the year ending 31st December, 1917 and the tables under the head "Jails" in Part VI—Statistics of British India.)

General. 92. The year opened with a total of 25,406 prisoners of all classes. During the year 87,263 were admitted and 88,494 discharged, leaving 24,175 in confinement at the end of the year. The daily average number of prisoners of all classes was 24,229 as compared with 26,693 of the previous year. The decrease in jail population occurred chiefly towards the end of the year. 2,377 civil prisoners were received during the year, being 229 more than in 1916. As was the case last year the balance of 252 at the end of the year includes a certain number of aliens. Thirty-four prisoners were released on account of sickness as compared with 47 in 1916 and 3,631 on other grounds, an increase of 2,014 on the previous year due to the release by Government of a number of infirm and short term prisoners and also to the inclusion under this head of 1,995 prisoners who were sent to Basra and whose sentences have been conditionally suspended by Government. The chief expenditure was on the construction of the new jail at Ballia, which is to be completed in 1918-19. The work of the staff, both European and Indian, was satisfactory. Owing to a shortage of sub-assistant surgeons on account of the war it was necessary to employ compounders at certain jails. The work of several European officers on military duty has been carried on satisfactorily in several of the Central Jails by Indian officials.

Punishments. 93. The number of jail offences so serious as to necessitate trial by criminal courts rose from 10 to 26, of which 23 were in connection with escapes in 1916 and 1917. The number of cases dealt with departmentally again fell from 29,873 to 26,427. A general improvement in the conduct of prisoners is noticeable. Of 26,459 punishments inflicted 18,290 were minor and 8,143 major. There was a slight increase in offences relating to assaults, mutiny and escapes, but a general decrease in all others. Actual escapes, however, numbered only eight as compared with 22 in 1916. Of these seven were recaptured. The number of floggings was the same as last year, 43.

Expenditure. 94. The total expenditure again fell from Rs. 18,58,557 to Rs. 17,54,604. The decrease of Rs. 1,03,953 mainly occurred under the head of dietary charges, owing to a decrease in the population. At the same time the total maintenance cost per head of prisoners was Rs. 72-6-8 against Rs. 69-10-0 in 1916 and Rs. 73-3-4 in 1915, the increase being due to high prices generally.

Employment. 95. The total net cash profit earned by the jail factories during the year was Rs. 3,24,635 against Rs. 4,02,950 in 1916, being a decrease of Rs. 78,315, the first drop for some years. The fall is mainly due to the excessive rise in the price of all raw materials, resulting in a much smaller demand for jail made goods by the general public, but partly also to the revised procedure adopted for the adjustment by book transfer of the cost of goods supplied by jail factories to the General Department.

Health. 96. The decrease in the death-rate noted in 1916 continued, being 13·2 per mille as against 13·7. The general health of the jails was on the whole extremely good. The death-rate was only slightly higher in the central jails than in district jails, although the former always contain a large number of old and infirm persons. Quinine was only issued to a few selected jails as the cost was very high. Substitutes were used in some others and reported on favourably.

Juvenile Jail at Bareilly. 97. 134 juveniles were sentenced to imprisonment during the year as compared with 137 in 1916. The daily average number in the Juvenile

Jail was 231. The capacity is only 232, but the number in the jail at the close of the year was 254. For the greater part of the year the jail was fully occupied and to prevent overcrowding transfers had to be stopped for considerable periods. Additional accommodation for another 100 youths is urgently wanted. Excellent work continues to be done here.

23—Civil Justice.

(For details see the annual reports on Civil Justice for the year ending 31st December, 1917 and the tables under the head "Civil Justice" in Part VI—Statistics of British India).

AGRA.

Original suits.

98. There was a very slight decrease of 310 in the total number of suits instituted, the drop being from 157,963 to 157,653. There was a decrease in munsifs' courts of 601 suits, but in all other courts slight increases occurred. Suits for immoveable property rose, while those for money or moveable property declined. Suits of smaller values decreased and those of larger values rose. The result was a rise in the value of suits instituted in all courts from Rs. 5,17,30,675 to Rs. 5,33,69,526. Generally the statistics of the year suggest that apprehension regarding instability of financial conditions owing to the war caused a pronounced increase in litigation with the object of realizing outstanding claims and debts. The total number of suits before the courts rose from 186,586 to 187,154 and disposals from 161,408 to 162,787, again a record figure. The pending file fell by 814.

Appeals.

99. Appeals rose from 11,450 to 11,730, the increase occurring in District Judges' courts. The pending file rose from 3,185 to 4,204.

High Court.

100. Appeals before the High Court rose from 5,096 to 5,219 and the pending file from 2,922 to 2,942.

Applications for execution of decrees.

101. Applications instituted for execution of decrees rose from 145,130 to 153,918, an increase of 8,788, the natural result of the particularly high figures of suit institutions in the last two years. The number of disposals rose by 10,512 and the pending file fell by 310. The percentage of fructuous applications fell from 50 to 49.

Village and honorary munsifs.

102. The total number of village courts fell from 321 to 242 and the number actually working from 238 to 182. A large reduction in Basti and smaller reductions in Muzaffarnagar, Shahjahanpur, Saharanpur and Farrukhabad were responsible for the drop in the total number, while the inactivity of 48 courts in Gorakhpur was mainly responsible for the small number actually working. Institutions fell from 15,154 to 13,382 and disposals from 14,827 to 13,309. The pending file fell from 521 to 274. Honorary munsifs decided 5,215 cases as against 5,345 in 1916.

OUDH.

Suits.

103. The total number of suits instituted remained practically stationary, being 72,387 as against 73,055 in the previous year. As in Agra suits for money or moveables declined, while there was an appreciable increase in the institution of all other kinds of suits except testamentary. The Judicial Commissioner considers the decrease in the former due to the efforts made during the two previous years to collect outstanding debts and to recover moveable property on account of the general shrinkage of credit owing to the war. Disposals rose from 73,741 to 75,465 and the pending file was reduced from 11,740 to 11,003. There was again a big decline in the value of suits, due to a falling off in the institution of suits of exceptionally high value during the last two years.

Appeals.

104. The number of appeals increased by about 2 per cent., but the number of disposals rose by more than 3 per cent. and the pending file was reduced in consequence.

Judicial Commissioner's Court.

105. The institution of regular appeals in the Judicial Commissioner's Court rose from 609 to 719, an increase of 18 per cent. Disposals declined from 789 to 672 and the pending file increased from 508 to 555 cases.

Applications for execution of decrees.

106. There was an increase of more than 3 per cent. in the number of applications for execution of decrees, and though the number of such applications disposed of during the year rose from 59,598 to 62,310, the pending file at the close of the year showed 9,275 cases as against 9,107 in the previous year. The percentage of wholly infructuous applications rose from 55 to 56.

Village and honorary munsifs.

107. Village courts decreased from 100 to 99, four being opened in Kheri and five closed in Fyzabad. Institutions fell from 6,842 to 6,401 and disposals from 6,666 to 6,284. The number of honorary munsifs increased from 27 to 29, there being two new appointments in the Rae Bareli district. Decisions decreased from 4,911 to 4,486.

KUMAUN.

Suits.

108. In Kumaun the number of civil suits instituted rose from 6,310 to 6,553. The increase of 243 is spread over suits for money, moveable and immoveable property, specific relief, pre-emption, mortgage, religious and matrimonial suits. The value of suits decreased by Rs. 1,04,181 from Rs. 8,32,843 to Rs. 7,28,662, an increase in Almora and Garhwal being more than counterbalanced by the decrease in Naini Tal. The total number of suits for disposal rose from 7,105 to 7,496. The pending file fell from 817 to 772.

Appeals.

109. The number of appeals from decrees dropped from 339 to 284, the decrease being attributed to the transfer of certain classes of suits from the Civil to the Revenue side. 31 were pending at the close of the year. The percentage of wholly or partially successful appeals was the same as last year, 24.

Execution of decrees.

110. Applications for execution of decrees rose from 3,812 to 3,965, of which 559 remained pending at the close of the year as compared with 538 in the previous year. Complete or partial satisfaction was obtained in 46 per cent. of the applications disposed of.

24—Registration.

(For details see the report on Registration for the year ending 31st December, 1917 and the tables under the head "Registration" in Part VI, Statistics of British India.)

Registration.

111. There was a slight increase in the total number of all documents registered from 280,682 to 279,942. A fairly large decrease under "Instruments of mortgage" was common to nearly all districts and is mainly attributable to the satisfactory agricultural conditions of the year. "Instruments of sale or exchange of the value of Rs. 100 and upwards," on the other hand, show a similar increase distributed for the most part over registration districts containing large towns and showing that the special conditions of the time are still operative there.

Financial.

112. The total receipts rose from Rs. 7,29,270 to Rs. 7,46,315, due partly to the greater number of documents registered and partly to the larger valuation of the property affected. The total expenditure fell from Rs. 3,12,277 to Rs. 3,08,812 owing to economies effected in view of the prevailing financial stringency.

Prosecutions.

113. There were six prosecutions under the Registration Act during the year. Convictions were obtained in five.

Inspections.

114. Inspections decreased from 471 to 449.

25—Municipal Administration.

(For details see the annual report on Municipal Administration and Finances for the year ending 31st March, 1918 and the tables under the head "Municipalities" in Part VIII, Statistics of British India.)

Constitution.

115. There were few changes in the constitution of the municipal boards during the year, as, owing to the system of triennial elections which was introduced in the preceding year, the only elections held were for the purpose of filling casual vacancies or of re-constituting the few boards

which had decided to postpone their re-constitution till the end of the year. A reduction in the number of municipalities from 84 to 83 and a reduction of 10 in the total number of members of municipal boards is due to the conversion of the municipality of Kandhla into a notified area.

Chairmen.

116. The number of nominated official chairmen decreased from 23 to 21 and the number of elected non-official chairmen rose from 59 to 60. The municipal boards of Muttra, Lalitpur and Rae Bareli elected non-official chairmen for the first time. The elected non-official chairman of Hapur resigned and was replaced, at the request of the board, by a nominated official. At Chandpur which formerly had an elected non-official chairman, the Commissioner had to intervene and nominate a non-official for the post as the two parties on the board held separate meetings and each elected a chairman.

Taxation.

117. The final orders of the Secretary of State and of the Government of India regarding the replacement of octroi by terminal taxation were received during the course of the year. A Bill was introduced and passed through the Legislative Council to amend the Municipalities Act so as to empower the Local Government, without reference to the Government of India, to sanction the imposition of a terminal tax in municipalities in which octroi is at present in force. This Bill received the assent of the Governor General and passed into law.

Financial receipts.

118. The aggregate municipal income increased from 97·69 lakhs to 103·92 lakhs. Government contributions increased by one lakh, so that there was a net increase in ordinary municipal revenues of 5·23 lakhs. Out of this sum, 1·64 lakhs was due to the increase in the income from taxation. The incidence of taxation rose from Rs. 2-1-1 to Rs. 2-2-0 per head of population.

Octroi receipts.

119. The income from octroi, terminal tax and toll shows an increase of 1·22 lakhs which is mainly accounted for by the large increase in the receipts from octroi on cloth due to the increase in price of that commodity. The octroi on animals for slaughter alone showed a substantial decrease which is common to all the divisions. There was a decrease in the receipts from the terminal tax and toll in Cawnpore which is attributed to the restrictions on railway traffic and the consequent increase in imports by road. The percentage of refunds to gross receipts rose from 21·8 to 29·05.

Receipts from taxes other than octroi.

120. Taxes other than octroi, terminal tax and terminal toll produced an increase in revenue of Rs. 42,000. There were increases of Rs. 50,000 in the receipts from the tax on houses and lands and of Rs. 33,000 in the income from tolls, and decreases of Rs. 21,000 in the income from the tax on professions and trades, of Rs. 3,000 from the tax on circumstances and property, and of Rs. 16,000 from the tax on pilgrims. More than half of the increase from the tax on houses and lands was accounted for by the imposition of this tax for the first time in the municipalities of Moradabad and Jaunpur. But there were substantial increases in other municipalities which is mainly due to the natural growth of income owing to re-assessment or the erection of new buildings. There were moderate increases in receipts from the water-tax at Agra, Cawnpore and Naini Tal, but large reductions at Benares, Allahabad and Lucknow, which caused a net reduction of Rs. 18,000. The increase of Rs. 33,000 in the income from tolls is mainly due to the imposition of a toll for the first time in the municipalities of Ghaziabad and Bulandshahr, while the decrease of Rs. 21,000 in the income from the tax on professions and trades is due to the abolition of this tax in the municipalities of Ghaziabad, Bulandshahr, Sikandrabad and Kashipur. The slight reduction in the income from the tax on circumstances and property is mainly explained by the abolition of the Kandhla municipality and the reduction in the income from the pilgrims' tax shared between Fyzabad, Hardwar and Benares is ascribed to the reduction in the facilities for passenger traffic.

Receipts from sources other than taxation.

121. The revenue from sources other than taxation and Government contributions shows a net increase of Rs. 3,62,000, most of which is non-recurring and due to exceptional conditions. Lucknow accounts for Rs. 1,48,000 out of an increase of Rs. 2,64,000 under the head "Miscellaneous and other items," the major portion being due to refunds and sale of

materials in connection with certain improvement schemes. Under the same head there are large increases in the case of most municipalities which are due to the opening of shops for the sale of salt by the boards. Of the increase in recurring income the most substantial items are those of Rs. 43,000 under income from investments due to the receipt of interest on money invested in the War Loan, of Rs. 37,000 under rents and of a similar amount under the miscellaneous head. The most serious reduction in recurring income occurred under the head "Sale of water" which shows a decrease of Rs. 52,000. Cawnpore alone showed receipts from water approximately equal to the expenditure on water and the figures for many municipalities were most unsatisfactory. The other principal falls in recurring income are those of Rs. 18,000 under conservancy receipts and Rs. 12,000 under revenue from markets.

Grants. 122. Grants from Government amounted to 9·6 lakhs for general and 1·78 lakhs for educational purposes.

Loans. 123. The loans taken during the year totalled 7·03 lakhs as compared with 5·39 lakhs in the previous year. 6·65 lakhs were repaid as compared with 6·39 lakhs in 1916-17.

Expenditure. 124. The total expenditure increased by 2·07 lakhs. The increase under the head of miscellaneous was 2·56 lakhs, due to some special non-recurring items and to the opening of salt shops. The capital outlay on water and drainage schemes, however, shows a reduction of 2·41 lakhs and 1·51 lakhs respectively, while the expenditure on buildings shows a reduction of ·54 lakh; these reductions being due to the difficulty of obtaining materials. Allowing for such exceptional items and the reduction in the expenditure on original works, the ordinary recurring expenditure shows a net increase of about 3 lakhs. The most substantial increase of Rs. 1,25,000 was in the cost of the establishment and repairs of water-works. Conservancy charges show an increase of Rs. 53,000 for which Cawnpore and Allahabad are mainly responsible, sanitary works Rs. 41,000, general establishment charges Rs. 34,000, drainage establishment Rs. 27,000, and lighting charges Rs. 20,000.

Water-works. 125. Expenditure on water-works fell from 16·6 lakhs to 15·4 lakhs. There was an increase of more than a lakh under the head of establishment and repairs, but a decrease of more than two lakhs on capital outlay. This continued reduction in capital expenditure is regrettable, but unavoidable owing to war conditions. Nearly half of the capital outlay was incurred in Agra, where Rs. 3½ lakhs were expended on the water-supply improvement scheme. In Allahabad over a lakh was expended on tube wells and a similar amount in Lucknow. In both these municipalities there were again serious breakdowns of the water-supply.

Drainage. 126. The expenditure on drainage fell from 6·61 lakhs to 5·37 lakhs. The Allahabad municipal board continued the work on its main drainage scheme which is now almost completed and towards the end of the year a grant of 2 lakhs was received from the Local Government towards the cost of the Kydganj drainage scheme which was one of the works recommended by the Pilgrim Committee.

Lighting. 127. The expenditure on lighting rose from 6·42 lakhs to 6·62 lakhs, the increase being due to the increased price of lighting accessories. The scheme for electric lighting in Cawnpore is now practically complete, but progress in the electric lighting of Allahabad and Lucknow has been slow owing to war conditions.

Education. 128. Expenditure on education shows an increase of Rs. 44,000. Primary schools for boys increased by 50, while aided schools declined by 15. Girls' schools show a decrease of 5. The progress made is not very satisfactory, and it is regrettable that some boards have not been able to expend the grants given them four years ago by the Government, both for increasing the number of scholars and for the construction of school buildings.

Vaccination. 129. Vaccination work shows an improvement over that of the preceding year. The total number of persons vaccinated in the municipalities was 121,092 as compared with 119,088 in 1916-17. Successful primary

vaccinations and successful re-vaccinations numbered 105,751 and 7,006 respectively as against 103,902 and 6,447 in the previous year. Jaunpur, Almora, Naini Tal, Bahraich, and Etah are the best protected municipalities and Mainpuri, Rae Bareli, Farrukhabad, and Dehra Dun the least protected.

Vital Statistics.

130. The average birth-rate for 1917 was 47·93 and the death-rate 47·10 per mille, as compared with 45·15 and 36·54 respectively in 1916. The birth-rate is the highest recorded during the last 37 years. The infantile birth-rate again rose from 227·61 to 275·62, being as high as 401 in Pilibhit.

General.

131. The year under review is the first year during the whole of which the great majority of the boards have been working under non-official chairmen. It is to be regretted that in several boards the spirit of faction still prevails with serious effect on the municipal administration. The finances of some boards are in a most unsatisfactory condition and there is a tendency to increase expenditure without making adequate provision for a corresponding increase in revenue. The majority of boards have, however, discharged their duties with efficiency and there is reason to hope that as the members realise in greater measure their responsibility to their constituents and as the electorates become more critical of the action of their representatives, dissension will be less heard of and decisions be inspired less by personal feeling and more by considerations of the common good.

26—District Boards.

(For details see the annual report on the working of district boards for the year ending 31st March, 1918, and the tables under the heads "Local Boards" in Part VIII—Statistics of British India.)

Income.

132. The aggregate opening balance of the boards amounted to Rs. 76·53 against Rs. 75·26 lakhs in the previous year. Excluding this and advances and deposits the income rose from Rs. 1,10,41,890 to Rs. 1,14,80,514. This substantial improvement is chiefly due to increases of Rs. 82,000 under "Rates;" of Rs. 23,000 under "Pounds;" of Rs. 1,12,000 under "Interest due to investments in the War Loan;" of Rs. 1,02,000 under "Education" and of Rs. 1,17,000 under "Miscellaneous."

Expenditure.

133. There was a net increase of Rs. 1,16,000 in expenditure. The chief increases were Rs. 3,31,083 under "Education;" Rs. 51,794 under "Superannuation" and Rs. 1,82,813 under "Miscellaneous," while there was a decrease of Rs. 4,38,174 under "Public Works." The closing balance is shown as Rs. 39,62,000 but the boards held in addition over Rs. 41 lakhs invested in the War Loan, so that there was a net increase in the balances of over 4 lakhs.

Education.

134. The number of schools, board and aided, rose from 11,311 to 11,589, there being an increase of 223 in the number of those managed by the boards and of 45 in the number of aided schools. The total number of scholars rose from 673,829 to 696,933. The increase of Rs. 3,31,083 in expenditure occurred almost entirely under "Primary education" and was mainly due to the completion of the new scheme for primary school re-organization. Grants-in-aid again fell by Rs. 28,000. The small increase in the number of pupils, as compared with the very large increase in the expenditure is disappointing. In some districts in spite of the increase in expenditure there has been an actual decrease in the number of pupils, but this was largely due to the interruption of work by visitations of plague, cholera, and relapsing fever. The whole question of the future progress of primary education and of the financing of the expansion of primary education has recently engaged the attention of the Government and a resolution detailing the changes to be introduced in the working of the present system has been issued. Little progress has been made in the matter of female education. Complaints come from every division of the apathy of the general public and lack of trained teachers.

Medical.

135. The expenditure under the head of "Medical charges" show a decrease of Rs. 28,496. Owing to the great rise in the price of quinine and the necessity for conserving the stock of the drug in India the quininization

of school children was stopped. Both the standing and travelling dispensaries continued to gain in popularity but many travelling dispensaries had to be closed down temporarily owing to the deputation of sub-assistant surgeons to military duty.

Sanitation. 136. Expenditure on sanitation fell from Rs. 1,34,242 to Rs. 1,30,876. No progress is reported in the matter of rural sanitation. It has been found necessary to remove the conditions attached to grants made by the Board of Public Health that a quota of the cost should be found in local subscriptions. The Board of Public Health has been during the current year trying to stimulate further progress and has suggested to district boards that in place of carrying out small works in isolated places where supervision is difficult, they should select a definite area within easy reach of headquarters where a scheme of improvement on broad lines could be worked out.

Vaccination. 137. The returns for vaccination in section 53 of this report may be consulted.

Vital statistics. 138. Separate returns of vital statistics are not available, but those given in section 49 of this report may be consulted.

Arboriculture. 139. Arboriculture charges rose from Rs. 1·18 lakhs to Rs. 1·21 lakhs.

Civil works. 140. The continued reduction of expenditure owing to economies enforced by war conditions is mainly confined to original works. Expenditure on repairs to buildings remained stationary while there was a decrease of one lakh on repairs to communications.

General. 141. While the work of the year presents no features of special interest and while the activities of boards in most directions have been restricted by war conditions, the boards have no reason to be ashamed of the manner in which they have carried out their work under those conditions. The question of the constitution and functions of district boards is at present under the consideration of the Government and the prospect of early legislation which will confer upon district boards far greater powers than they at present possess is looked forward to.

CHAPTER IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

27—Agriculture.

(*For details see the annual reports on the administration of the department of Agriculture for the year ending* 30*th June,* 1918, *on the administration of the Civil Veterinary department for the year ending* 31*st March,* 1918, *and on the working of Co-operative Credit Societies for the year ending* 30*th June,* 1918, *the tables in the "Agricultural Statistics of India, Volume I," and those under the head "Co-operative Credit Societies" in Part II—Statistics of British India.*)

General. 142. The difficulties caused by the War naturally continued during the year and in some respects increased. The opening of new farms accentuated the shortage of the staff and application was accordingly made to Government for an increase in the subordinate Agricultural service and for a very considerable expansion of the fieldman service. This has since been sanctioned. Apart from shortage of staff the difficulties of the times were felt chiefly in the agricultural engineering branch owing to the uncertain supply of necessary material and the abnormally high prices which resulted in operations being considerably curtailed. Progress lay chiefly in the opening of farms sanctioned from the wheat money grant. The Kalianpur Seed Farm near Cawnpore was enlarged and land for a new farm was taken up in the Fyzabad district, the main object of these farms being to supply wheat seed and to maintain the purity of selected types. Land has also been acquired which will provide a farm for the Western circle. Temporary farms on leased land have been replaced by permanent farms in the Agra, Hardoi, and Mainpuri districts, and new district farms are being opened at Muzaffarnagar and Bahraich.

Agricultural College. 143. At the opening of the new session there were 97 students in the College at Cawnpore, of whom 50 were in the diplomate, and 47 in the two-year, or vernacular course. The number is rather less than in the preceding

year but allowing for students who will subsequently join it is about as many as the College and boarding houses can conveniently hold. The number of applications received for admission to the two-year course indicates that there is a growing demand for an agricultural education of a practical nature, and it is probable that were the age of admission lowered this form of education would prove still more attractive. Arrangements have accordingly been made for opening a middle school for agriculture designed mainly for the sons of the smaller zamindars and larger occupancy tenants from the age of 15 to 17. The first batch of four-year students passed out during the year, nine out of ten obtaining their diplomas. Three of these were taken into the United Provinces Agricultural department, two into the department of Bihar and Orissa, two into the Central Provinces Educational department, and one obtained employment in a private estate. Five students of the two-year or vernacular course were taken into the lower grades of the subordinate Agricultural service and a certain number obtained temporary employment in the department. Three of this class joined the Labour Corps proceeding to Salonika.

Research and Demonstration.

144. The cotton crop was partially ruined by abnormally heavy rains in September and research work was greatly hampered in consequence. Of the American crop it can only be said that it yielded rather better than the *desi*. The success of American cotton in the Punjab is leading to some demand for this type of cotton in the western districts, which are most closely in touch with that province, and selections have now been made from the mixed varieties grown under this name and the most promising in point of staple and habit are being distributed. The whole of the sugarcane available at different farms was bought up with the result that an unusually large area of medium-sized canes was sown. The cultivation of medium-sized canes has given prominence to the striking deficiencies in existing methods of crushing and boiling, considerable difficulty being experienced in disposing of the much heavier crops raised with the existing appliances. Although new canes have been tried with some success, the main efforts of the department are directed not so much towards introducing better canes but to improving the general standard of cultivation. The work on wheat, on the other hand, consists mainly in the systematic introduction of improved kinds. The demand for seed of these improved kinds continues keen and their higher potentialities of yield are undoubted, but it is emphasized that, as in the case of cane, their full measure of advantage can only be realised under good cultivation. Research work on wheats is mainly devoted to finding a wheat better suited than the Pusa wheats to those parts of the provinces where labour is scare, and a beardless wheat is much subject to the depredations of birds. The problem has not yet been solved. A number of experiments have been carried out on the value of different manures, but without conclusive results. Progress has been made with the botanical experiments with poppy and it has been satisfactorily established that the varieties grown in certain areas are characterised by a low morphine content of the opium and types have been isolated which, tried on a field scale, have proved uniformly rich in morphine. Special efforts were made to increase the area under the castor-plant, the oil being in demand as a lubricant for areoplanes. Some 1,000 maunds of seed were distributed and in districts where the rainfall was adequate there is believed to be an increase in the area under this crop.

Demonstrations were principally of better methods of cultivation of cane, wheat and other crops, the use of improved implements, and the application of different manures. Special demonstrations were arranged over a block of villages in the Cawnpore district with lever harrows on irrigated wheat. With a larger staff it is hoped to specialise more in the direction of raising the standard of cultivation and improving exhausted soils, as opposed to the introduction of selected varieties.

Distribution of seed.

145. To cope with the increasing demand for seed, fresh departmental seed dépôts and stores were opened in the Central and Eastern circles. The total amount of seed sold—excluding cane sets of which there was an

unusually heavy sale—amounted to about 62,000 maunds; mainly wheat, cotton, gram, early *arhar*, and groundnut.

Sale of implements.

146. The sale of implements again declined owing to restriction of supplies and rising prices. This is the more regrettable as the improvement of methods of cultivation is practically dependent upon the introduction of a better class of implements.

Manures.

147. Arrangements have been made to open dépôts, with a view to bringing the various indigenous cake manures, castor, *nim* and *mohwa* within easy reach of growers and also to offer them for sale at the lowest wholesale prices. So far ten have been opened and sales have been on a satisfactory scale.

Fruit.

148. The new fruit orchards at Ramgarh are coming into bearing and will shortly be in a position to supply fruit of a good quality to the plains markets. At Chaubattia experimental work was carried out regarding the most suitable stock, varieties, tree-culture, etc., and the best methods of packing fruit for transport to the plains. The latter were tested successfully by the despatch of considerable quantities of apples to Mesopotamia. Successful experiments were made with pulping apples and apricots; the pulp being sent for jam-making to the Nawabganj Sugar Factory.

Well-boring.

149. The number of district borers had again to be reduced owing to scarcity of plant. In spite of the great difficulties attending this work at present eight tube wells were put down and work on a few more has been begun. Some successful improvements have been introduced.

Publications.

150. No bulletins were published during the year.

Civil Veterinary Department.

Education.

151. Seven students were selected for training in veterinary colleges as scholarship-holders; of these three were sent to Bengal and four to the Punjab veterinary college. Most of the students undergoing courses passed their examinations. The United Provinces Veterinary Medical Society started by the subordinate staff in 1912 continues to do good work, and is publishing the Urdu Veterinary Journal monthly. Demonstrations and lectures were given by members of the staff in some of the important fairs and shows.

Disease.

152. The reported mortality from various contagious diseases increased from 15,473 to 17,407. The increase is chiefly due to the prevalence of *surra* and to severe outbreaks of foot-and-mouth disease, haemorrhagic septicaemia, black-water fever and anthrax. Of equine diseases 42 cases of glanders and farcy are reported, about the same as in the previous year. *Surra* was much more widespread than in former years, and extra veterinary inspectors and assistants were deputed to Mainpuri and Banda, where it was specially severe. There was also an increase in deaths from tetanus and strangles. Of bovine diseases rinderpest assumed a severe form in Muttra, Allahabad, Naini Tal, and Saharanpur. Extra veterinary assistants were deputed where necessary and inoculations were carried on in 34 districts. Haemorrhagic septicaemia also appeared in a specially virulent form and caused 3,142 deaths as against 1,777 in the previous year. It is believed that, but for widespread inoculation, much more serious losses would have occurred. Very few districts escaped the ravages of foot-and-mouth disease from which 2,854 deaths are reported or more than double the number of the preceding year. Deaths from black-water fever increased from 700 to 3,114 and there was a slight increase in deaths from anthrax. Inoculations decreased from 56,619 to 48,974. Satisfactory work continued to be done in the investigation of disease. Hospitals and dispensaries increased from 79 to 83 and the number of cases treated rose from 92,474 to 101,487. The question of uniformity in the scale of fees has been considered and, with a few exceptions, the district boards have agreed to the proposals made.

Breeding.

153. The number of stud bulls and buffaloes continues to increase, 266 being now maintained as against 193 last year and 145 the year before that. It is anticipated that during the next few years there will be an increasing demand for stud bulls and as far as possible steps are being taken to provide for this contingency. Efforts are being made by the department

to stimulate public interest in the direction of cattle-breeding on more scientific lines than in the past. The Kheri cattle farm has 311 head of cattle and the number of bulls issued to districts for stud purposes was 93, a record output since the farm was started. The Madhuri Kund farm has 264 head, an increase of 32 on last year's number. The number of horse and pony stallions increased from 66 to 72, 54 were at work and coverings numbered 3,323. The progeny of the provincial stallions shows a continued improvement. Donkey stallions increased from 17 to 18 and coverings from 689 to 698. The sheep-breeding experiments undertaken during the last few years to improve the quality and quantity of the wool of the indigenous sheep continue to give highly satisfactory results.

Establishment.

154. The strength of the subordinate establishment increased from 185 to 189. Owing to the continued demands of veterinary assistants for the War it was impossible to obtain anything like the number of men required. There are now eight vacancies on the headquarters staff. The cost of the department fell from Rs. 1,61,133 to Rs. 1,57,200.

Co-operative Societies.

155. Agricultural conditions were not so favourable as in the previous year but a further heavy increase in arrears is attributed, as last year, chiefly to the defective co-operative spirit of the primary societies, the insufficient control over their staff by the Central Banks, and the difficulty of dealing effectively with wilful defaulters. There has been in the course of the year a serious falling-off both in the number of societies and in the working capital and, in the Registrar's opinion "the co-operative movement in these provinces is on the verge of stagnation," a statement which is more than borne out by the figures for the year under report. If the movement is not to decline further a serious effort is required and the Registrar lays stress on the need of a larger staff, especially for propaganda work which is at present at a standstill. Recoveries amounted to Rs. 18·99 lakhs and loans to Rs. 17·96 lakhs as compared with Rs. 24·43 and Rs. 23·96 lakhs respectively last year and the outstandings were Rs. 39·51 lakhs, of which Rs. 24 lakhs were overdue. The number of societies fell from 3,245 to 3,090 and of members from 114,165 to 101,626; working capital fell from Rs. 120 to Rs. 111 lakhs. At the commencement of the year 126 liquidations were pending and during the year 283 new cases were added. Proceedings were completed in 64 cases only and the year closed with 345 cases pending. Measures are being taken to give special training to candidates for employment under the banks. A special class was opened at Hardoi last year at which a large number of candidates were trained. Another training class is to be opened this year.

Central societies.

156. Central societies at district headquarters, which finance all co-operative institutions in the district, are known as district banks; those situated in the interior of the district with a limited area of operations are known as central banks. No new central societies were registered during the year. Seven were closed, one being a district bank and the other six smaller central societies. Few of the smaller central banks can be said to have served their purpose satisfactorily. The total working capital of the central societies has dropped by Rs. 6·27 lakhs. On the other hand the share capital has increased from Rs. 10·23 to Rs. 10·52 lakhs and the statutory reserve from Rs. 5·51 to Rs. 5·82 lakhs. There has been a decrease of Rs. 5·26 lakhs in deposits from individuals, and the total amount of loans from central banks and primary societies to other central banks has gone down by Rs. 1·51 lakhs. On the whole the financial position is satisfactory. The total profits increased from Rs. ·78 to Rs. 1·60 lakhs, but this was chiefly due to a change in the system of accounts. Advances to subordinate central banks and to primary societies were respectively Rs. 3·56 and Rs. 17·82 lakhs. Rs. 23·92 lakhs was repaid in capital and Rs. 5·38 in interest. Outstandings fell from Rs. 43·55 lakhs to Rs. 39·40 lakhs, but overdue arrears rose from Rs. 15·26 to Rs. 19·74 lakhs, or Rs. 20·15 if postponements be included. The amount of arrears due to a large number of central banks from their primary societies

is very large, being in 15 cases more than 75 per cent. of their total outstandings. Inefficient management is the cause responsible for the present position.

Rural societies.

157. The number of primary agricultural societies fell from 3,003 to 2,873 and their membership from 102,312 to 92,040. The total working capital fell from Rs. 51·36 to Rs. 48·61 lakhs : this is chiefly due to the large liquidations. Share capital increased by Rs. 67,767, which is poor compared with the increase of the previous year The reserve fund increased by Rs. 1·20 lakhs and the profits, which include overdue interest, from Rs. 1·71 to Rs. 2 lakhs. Members' deposits decreased by Rs. 4,724. The proportion of capital owned by members individually or collectively increased from 33·6 to 39·3 per cent. No reduction in the rates of interest was allowed. The total sum due from members at the beginning of the year was Rs. 43·91 lakhs. During the year Rs. 17·48 lakhs were advanced and Rs. 19 lakhs collected in principal with Rs. 5·16 in interest. The arrears amounted to 24 lakhs or 64·2 per cent. of the outstandings, and postponements have been given for another Rs. 1·39 lakhs. Loans were largely given for the purchase of bullocks and seed, and for the payment of rent.

Urban societies.

158. The number of non-agricultural primary societies fell from 179 to 162. There was a decline in membership from 6,921 to 5,598 and in working capital from Rs. 4·91 to Rs. 4·81 lakhs. There were 9 limited liability societies, 10 non-credit societies, and 143 unlimited liability societies. Of the limited liability societies five are clerks' societies ; they should be in a better condition than they actually are but the members though intelligent and educated persons, do not take enough interest and at present the societies cannot be described as successful. The general condition of the unlimited liability societies has not improved. The stress of War conditions has, in fact, made their position worse and the percentage of arrears to outstandings rose from 46 to 53·5. The non-credit societies are the same as last year. Some, such as the Oxford and Cambridge Hostel stores at Allahabad and the Sandila Co-operative store, are doing well, but in others the position is unsatisfactory.

28—Weather and Crops.

(For details see the annual season and crop report for the year ending 30th June, 1918, the "Agricultural Statistics of British India," volume I, the "Area and yield of certain principal crops in India" and "Prices and Wages in India."

Character of the season.

159. The 1917 monsoon arrived in the middle of June and remained in varying degrees of intensity till the end of October. The total rainfall was again in excess of the normal, but the distribution was not so favourable as that of the previous year, and on the whole the season from an agricultural point of view was not so good. The rainfall was excessive in the cotton-growing tracts and during August there was some deficiency in the rice-growing areas. Conditions for the sowing of the kharif were favourable and a large area was put down, but in the Doab and Bundelkhand the rainfall was too heavy for the class of crops mainly grown. The cotton and *juar* crops were poor, rice and sugarcane good. The cold weather rainfall was scanty. November was rainless and only in a few districts was the rain in December and January heavy enough to benefit the crops. February which is usually a critical month for the rabi was not only rainless, but marked by west winds and high temperatures. Rain did not fall till the third week in March, when it proved of considerable benefit to the unirrigated crops which were backward, but did some damage to the irrigated. The failure of the winter rains was generally less severely felt as the crop was sown late, but in parts of the province, especially in Bundelkhand, some of the land had received insufficient preparation owing to the lateness of the rains. Crops such as gram, which are ordinarily unirrigated suffered most, and the barley crop which suplies food to the poorer population was somewhat disappointing. The irrigated wheat was almost everywhere good but the unirrigated somewhat below normal. The weather in April and May was normal and favourable for harvesting operations. The crop was generally got in in good condition.

160. The total cultivated area fell by some 330,598 acres or 0·9 per cent. As compared, however, with the accepted normal, there was a rise of 902,245 acres, or 2·6 per cent. The total area under kharif crops declined by 619,340 acres, or 2·6 per cent. as compared with the previous year, but was in excess of the accepted normal. There was a heavy decline in Bundelkhand owing to continuous rain in July and August, which resulted in short sowings of *juar* and *bajra*. In the eastern districts on the other hand, there was some slight increase in kharif sowings. The total rabi area rose by 813,418 acres. There was a considerable increase in Bundelkhand, in which division a lot of new land was broken up for cultivation. The Agra and Meerut divisions also showed increases, though on a smaller scale. The common feature of the croppage in the western districts was a decline in the cultivation of *juar* and *bajra* and an increase under wheat. Cotton showed an increase of 11 per cent., the expansion being marked in Unao, Hardoi, and Lucknow; and in the Allahabad and Fatehpur districts the crop seems to be spreading. American cotton has suffered in the two preceding wet seasons and the area declined. The area under indigo rose from 158,621 acres to 187,382 acres. The expectation of high profits was not, however, realised. The cotton was partially ruined by rain, while owing to the difficulty of disposing of the dye, the indigo plant sold for very poor prices. The area under sugarcane again increased from 1,200,696 to 1,484,249 acres; the crop did well and realised good prices. There were large increases in both the Meerut and Rohilkhand divisions. The area under hemp rose from 176,903 to 211,974 acres. Its cultivation is steadily spreading in the eastern districts. Wheat showed an increase of 484,706 acres and seems to have recovered from the depression which set in in 1915. The principal increase took place in Bundelkhand. Barley continued to show a steady increase and the area under it was 2 per cent. larger than in the previous year. There was a decrease in the area under gram and an increase under linseed. Cultivated area.

161. The irrigated area was again somewhat below normal and smaller than in the previous year, the fall being from 11,669,000 to 11,590,000 acres. In all the irrigated area amounted to 30 per cent. of the total cultivated area. Of this 14 per cent. was irrigated from wells, 7 per cent. from canals, and 9 per cent. from other sources. There was some increase in the area irrigated from canals and tanks, but a considerable drop in the area irrigated from wells, this occurring mainly in Rohilkhand, where the total irrigated area fell from 9·8 to 6·25 lakhs of acres. Kharif irrigation was on much the same scale as in the previous year. The failure of the winter rains led to an intense demand for water from the canals from January onwards, but owing to the slacker demand earlier in the season, the total irrigated area was less than in the previous year. The proportion of the irrigated wheat was smaller than usual, being 52 per cent.; this being due to the very large area of unirrigated wheat in the Rohilkhand and Jhansi divisions. The total number of masonry wells in use was somewhat smaller than in the previous year, but there was an increase in the number constructed from 12,072 to 12,440. Construction was most active in the Fyzabad division, while Rohilkhand and Bundelkhand where there are special difficulties of construction with the ordinary methods employed show the lowest returns. In Rohilkhand an experiment was made with a modified form of tube well to improve the existing wells and met with some success. Irrigation

162. The kharif outturn was, on the whole, much the same as in the previous year. The late rice was a particularly fine crop; the *juar* and *bajra* suffered severely from the heavy rains and the outturn was considerably below normal. There was an improvement in maize and sugarcane, but the *til* and cotton outturns decreased, especially cotton, which was only 40 per cent. of the normal. The rabi crop, though very fair, was not up to the average of the previous year. Wheat and barley were 90 per cent. of the normal as compared with 95 the year before; gram and linseed 80 per cent. as compared with 95, and rapeseed 60 as compared with 75. The season had, however, one advantage over that of 1916, namely, that the harvest was got in in excellent condition and the grain was of good quality. Outturn.

Prices.

163. Prices generally opened easier than in 1916 in consequence of a good rabi harvest following a satisfactory kharif, but they hardened considerably during the year and in June, 1918, were considerably higher than in the corresponding month in 1917. In June, 1917, wheat in the Cawnpore market sold at 9·25 seers to the rupee, barley at 14 seers, gram at 14·12 seers, *juar* at 14·5 seers, and rice at 7·25 seers; in June, 1918 the prices were: wheat 8 seers, barley 12 seers, gram 11 seers, *juar* 8·25 seers, and rice 6·30 seers. These high prices at the conclusion of the year reflect the apprehension which has since been shown to be justified as to the course of the 1918 monsoon. The price of cotton in consequence of the very poor harvest was unusually high; the price of *gur* fluctuated considerably, but there was a tendency for it to fall. Exports of foodstuffs were on a much larger scale than in the preceding years. The net export of wheat, after deducting imports rose from 3,905,000 to 12,189,000 maunds, and of other grains from 7,466,000 to 17,903,000 maunds. Next to wheat the heaviest exports were in gram, pulses, and barley.

29—Horticulture.

(For details see the annual reports on the Horticulture garden at Lucknow and the Botanical gardens at Saharanpur for the year ending 31st March, 1918.)

Horticultural gardens.

164. There was again a further increase in the demand for acclimatised flower seed from the Lucknow gardens, the number of packets distributed being 14,890, as compared with 11,076 in the preceding year. Of these, rather more than one-fourth were supplied free to schools and colleges. In addition to flower seeds large quantities of vegetable seeds and seeds of timber and ornamental trees were supplied free to the military authorities in Mesopotamia. Various important improvements were effected in the gardens, which, on the whole, had again a good year, the weather conditions apart from the failure of the winter rains being as favourable as they could possibly be for plant life. Receipts amounted to Rs. 12,829 or Rs. 578 more than in the previous year, while expenditure increased from Rs. 27,748 to Rs. 30,906. The number of plants distributed from the gardens during the year was 72,275 including 13,735 fruit trees, 21,687 ornamental trees and shrubs and 4,151 roses. Plants, seeds, and cut flowers to the value of Rs. 2,867 were supplied free. The three years' course for chaudhris contained 17 students, of whom four finished the course and after examinatiou were given certificates.

Botanical gardens.

165. As a result of the present conditions, the Saharanpur garden has had to modify its general line of work in the direction of more immediate and pressing necessities. There has been a considerable falling-off in the demand for plants, especially that for ornamental plants and a correspondingly greater demand for vegetable seed. In anticipation of this increased demand a greatly increased area was put under vegetable seeds, but the crop was greatly damaged by a disastrous hailstorm in March. The distribution of plants has been hindered by the enhanced railway freight, and the congestion of traffic on the railways. The new irrigation scheme to obtain water from tube wells instead of from canals has, on the whole, been very successful. It has been found that the temperature of the water pumped from the tube well was 17 degrees higher than canal water, and the result has been that the crop so watered was generally a fortnight earlier than the other. The season was less favourable than last year, being spoilt by the hailstorm already mentioned, some rather heavy rain in October, which interfered with early sowings and an exceptionally severe attack of *aphis* which worked havoc among the radish and turnip crops. Direct receipts totalled Rs. 20,821, as compared with Rs. 19,890 of the previous year, the increase being more than accounted for by the increase in the sale of seeds. Expenditure amounted to Rs. 38,690, practically the same figure as last year, and Rs. 2,755 less than the budget estimate. Work at Dehra Dun was handicapped by the difficulty in obtaining Garhwali labour which prevented much extension. Additions were, however, made to the fruit portion and greater attention was paid to

the production of vegetable seeds. The School of Horticulture which now consists of the chaudhri and mali classes only has been kept up to the full standard, and there was a large demand for trained malis.

30—Forests.

[*For details see the annual progress report on Forest administration for the year ending 30th June, 1918, and the tables under the head "Forest" Part IV (b)—Statistics of British India.*]

Area and demarcation.

166. State forests decreased slightly in area from 7,510 to 7,495 square miles. The principal changes were in the Kumaun and Western circles. In the former 388 square miles of protected forest were reserved and 24 square miles were received in transfer from the Western circle. In the Western circle 13 square miles were transferred from the Haldwani division to the Tarai and Bhabar estates as compensation for loss of grazing revenue. In the Kumaun circle 1,317 square miles of protected forest have still to be reserved; of this area 220 square miles are in South Garhwal; the field work in respect of the revision of the settlement here has been completed and final notifications are under preparation; the remainder is in North Garhwal, where revision of the settlement is still in progress. The total expenditure on settlement was Rs. 5,735, practically all in the Kumaun circle.

Revenue.

167. The total receipts realised during the year rose from Rs. 53·87 to Rs. 63·16 lakhs and the surplus from Rs. 25·40 to Rs. 29·63 lakhs. But for the debiting of capital expenditure against current income the figures would be still more favourable. The chief increases in revenue were Rs. 2·87 lakhs under timber, Rs. 1·68 lakhs under firewood, and Rs. 4·71 lakhs under other produce.

Expenditure.

168. The total expenditure rose from Rs. 28·46 to Rs. 33·52 lakhs. Timber and produce extracted by Government agency more than accounts for the increase, there being an appreciable fall in expenditure on account of rent of leased forests, and stores, tools and plant. The increase is chiefly in the Kumaun circle and is due mainly to the expansion of resin operations, the rise in the price of drums and tins and expenditure on the construction of a new factory at Bareilly. The decrease under the head of rent is due to the account for the leased forests of Tehri Garhwal being settled after the close of the forest year. An increase of Rs. 58,884 under Communications and Buildings is principally the result of increased attention being paid to the extension and upkeep or roads.

Outturn.

169. The outturn of timber and fuel was 9·2 and 23·9 million cubic feet as against 8·5 and 17·6 million cubic feet respectively in the previous year; the total value of timber and fuel increased from Rs. 46·8 to Rs. 49·3 lakhs. An increase of 4 lakhs of cubic feet in the Western circle was due partly to special *chir* fellings in the Chakrata division and partly to revised working plans in Ramnagar. There was a decrease of 3 lakhs cubic feet in the Eastern circle and an increase of 6 lakhs in the Kumaun circle. The outturn of fuel increased in the Kumaun and Eastern circles, but decreased in the Western circle owing to a decrease in the demands at Chakrata and Lansdowne. The value of the output of bamboos rose from Rs. 2·29 to Rs. 2·36 lakhs and of minor produce from Rs. 14·45 to Rs. 19·65 lakhs, the increase in the latter being almost entirely due to the large outturn and to the rise in value of rosin and turpentine. The most important feature of the year as regards the resin industry has been the sanction by Government and the commencement of the construction of a new factory at Maheshpur Utaria, near Bareilly. The Bhowali plant is out of date and worn out and does not produce the best quality of manufactured products or obtain the full outturn from the raw produce. The new factory which is estimated to cost Rs. 8 lakhs, is being built on modern lines and the plant is similar to that at the Punjab factory. The crop of crude resin increased during the year by 5,444 maunds to 67,864 maunds although the season was very unfavourable. Great improvements were effected in the methods of collection and packing and this resulted in an improvement in the quality of resin manufactured.

43,924 maunds of rosin and 93,970 gallons of turpentine were manufactured during the year and the total sales realized Rs. 11·46 lakhs as against Rs. 5·35 lakhs in the previous year. The net profit rose from Rs. 3·10 to Rs. 4·77 lakhs. The arrangements for the supply of sleepers to metre-gauge railways was continued and extended. With it was combined the supply of a large number of metre-gauge sleepers to the Munitions Board.

Breaches of forest rules.

170. Breaches of forest rules fell from 4,681 to 4,416, including 2,704 unauthorized fellings or removals and 1,403 cases of unauthorized grazing. Cases taken into court numbered 132 inclusive of 22 pending from last year. One hundred and six cases were tried and 26 were pending at the close of the year. Convictions were obtained in 94 or 88·7 per cent. The number of cases compounded totalled 3,550 and involved 16,187 persons as compared with 3,691 cases and 15,725 persons last year. The average compensation taken fell from Rs. 2-7-10 to Rs. 1-8-5 per person. In Kumaun it was only Re. 0-15-4.

Protection from fire.

171. The season was again favourable for successful protection from fire and the number of cases of injury by fire fell from 100 to 89. The area under protection was 48·36 per cent. of the whole forest area or slightly more than last year. Of this 99 per cent. was successfully protected. The only division in which the percentage of success fell below 99 was North Garhwal and from this division alone is any complaint received regarding the general attitude of the villagers towards-fire, protection. Even here, however, the results are not very bad and there is no reason to be despondent regarding the future.

Grazing.

172. The income from grazing dues amounted to Rs. 1·23 lakhs. Thirty per cent. of the total grazing area remained closed and 58 per cent. remained open to all animals for the whole year. There was a slight increase in the number of cattle grazed.

Communications and buildings.

173. The total expenditure for new roads and repairs to roads rose from Rs. 95,994 to Rs. 1,35,441. 223 miles of new roads and paths were constructed and 5,932 miles were repaired. The Sarda Valley road which was improved last year was used successfully and the construction of the gorge portion through which timber has hitherto had to be floated has now been sanctioned. The Khara-Hardwar road received special attention and is now passable for motors. Shortage of staff delayed the road work in Kumaun. Arrangements are now being made to employ special men for road work there and in order to ensure regular progress a three years' scheme has been drawn up, providing for an average annual expenditure of Rs. 31,317. Rupees 31,003 was spent on new buildings and Rs. 47,144 on repairs to buildings. The greater part of the former was incurred on houses for subordinates.

General.

174. Apart from the extremely satisfactory financial results, the most interesting features of the year in Forest development were the appointment of a special forest utilization officer, the commencement of the *chir* tar industry, the construction of the new resin distillery at Bareilly, and the establishment of a special hay division to meet the demands of the Army. Considerable progress was made during the year towards the development of the latent resources of the forest. The department is instituting pioneer factories which will convert raw produce into forms acceptable to the market, develop demands for such produce and demonstrate the financial possibilities of produce hitherto left in the forest as useless. A special forest utilization officer was appointed from the 1st January, 1918, for the special purpose of developing markets for timbers which are at present unsaleable, and proposals to form a separate branch of the department for this work were submitted to Government and received sanction after the close of the year. *Chir* tar forms one of the most important items of the experimental work of the year. The bulk of the work was carried out in the West Almora division. Various improvements were introduced in the apparatus by the special officer in charge. The tar obtained has been accepted both by chemists and chemical firms as the equivalent of Stockholm tar and a market for a large quantity is assured. The *chir* tar work may now be considered to have passed out of the purely experimental stage and the tar is now ready to take its

place alongside the resin industry as an established minor forest produce. The construction of the new resin distillery at Bareilly has been already referred to. An officer of the Forest department was placed on special duty from the beginning of September, 1917, in connection with the supply of 50,000 tons of forest hay to the Army department and he was assisted for about eight months by two members of the Indian Civil Service and four deputy collectors. The work was very successfully accomplished, the total yield of the operations being estimated at 52,000 tons of baled hay. Apart from this 183,787 broad-gauge sleepers were supplied to the Munitions Board and 712,333 metre-gauge sleepers, mostly sal, were supplied to railways, more than half being for direct War service. 28,280 maunds of various tan stuffs were collected and sent to the Government Tannery, at Allahabad and 44,000 maunds of rosin and 94,000 gallons of turpentine helped to fill the gap caused by the great reduction in the import of these commodities owing to the War.

Wild elephants did less damage than usual. The trout hatchery at Bhowali had a very disappointing year, disease being generally prevalent and the stock much diminished in consequence. The failure of the crops in Garhwal prevented the revised arrangements for transport and camp supplies from being entirely successful, though, except in North Garhwal, they resulted in some improvement.

31—Mines and Quarries.

(For details see the tables under "Mineral production" in Part I—Statistics of British India.)

Mines.

175. There are practically no mines in these provinces. Small quantities of gold continue to be washed in the Garhwal and Bijnor districts. and a small amount was produced in Jhansi. The value of the iron produced is still more negligible, the production this year amounting to only 12 maunds from Garhwal valued at Rs. 96 as compared with 25½ maunds last year.

Quarries.

176. In the Almora district 43,025 slates worth Rs. 8,191 were quarried as against 49,350 valued at Rs. 4,809 in the previous year. The Mirzapur stone quarries produced 1,32,911 tons, principally building stone, or rather more than in the previous year: the value of the outturn rose from 2·4 to 2·6 lakhs. The Banda quarries produced 8,243 tons to the value of Rs. 27,971. Haldwani was responsible for a large increase in the amount and value of the limestone burnt in the Naini Tal district. 2,365 tons were produced there worth Rs. 7,246 and 873 tons worth Rs. 4,718 in Dehra Dun. There was a slight increase in the amount and value of the soap-stone obtained from Hamirpur.

32—Manufactures.

(For details see the tables in Parts I and II—Statistics of British India.)

Cotton.

177. The number of cotton ginning and pressing factories which worked during the year under report was 105, employing 11,740 operatives as against 112 employing 12,364 operatives last year. The decrease appears to be due to the scarcity of cotton. The number of cotton mills remained at 18. They employed 15,150 work-people with 4,713 looms as against 16,014 work-people with 5,009 looms last year.

Sugar factories.

178. There were 10 sugar factories employing 2,286 workmen as against 9, employing 2,398 last year. Sugar factories are still working under favourable conditions as regards selling prices, but it is still impossible to obtain machinery for extensions.

Indigo.

179. The number of indigo factories was 229. They employed 20,493 workmen or rather less than last year.

Lac.

180. The number of lac factories (all in Mirzapur) fell from 30 to 10 and the number of workmen employed from 3,093 to 1,030. The industry had again a prosperous year, high prices being maintained throughout, but

the working of the factories has been impeded to a certain extent by the restricted railway bookings.

Tanneries.

181. The number of tanneries remained the same, while the number of operatives employed by them rose from 5,253 to 6,246. Almost all were exclusively engaged in the preparation of leather for Army purposes.

Miscellaneous.

182. Progress has been well maintained in the manufacture of glassware. The Allahabad Glass Works, the largest concern in the province, has been successful in turning out useful glassware required by the Military Department, and good progress has also been made at Bijhoi. A new open gas-fired regenerative continuous tank furnace which possesses a great many advantages over the old type of furnace, has been constructed at the Allahabad Glass Works. A bottle-blowing plant is also being erected at these works. The services of a number of blowers have been secured from among the Territorials for the purpose of training Indian labour. Some 20 apprentices are at present learning the trade at the U. P. Glass Works. There are about 60 bangle furnaces at Firozabad, all of which are doing very well.

Owing to the difficulty of obtaining plant, no new oil mills could be started during the year. At present there are four possessing hydraulic presses. The outlook for this industry as soon as normal conditions return, is regarded as most promising. The Government Soda Factory which was started last year is reported to have made satisfactory progress. The results obtained indicate that the experiment has been justified both from the scientific and business points of view; and if proper use is made of the experience gained, it should not be impossible to establish in these provinces a lucrative and important industry in soda.

One Jute Factory was started during the year. 31 looms are working with 535 work-people.

There has been some progress in the working of the Central Emporium, but it has been very much handicapped by the uncertainty of obtaining regular supplies.

Weaving schools.

183. The number of students at the Government Central Weaving Institute, Benares, increased from 76 to 87. Various improvements and inventions were introduced, some of which were very successful. As there was great difficulty in getting yarn dyed locally, a student from the Cawnpore dyeing school was engaged as an experiment, and as a result, a proposal for the appointment of a Dyeing Master at the Institute is under the consideration of the Government. The district weaving schools have now come under the Principal's supervision. Of these, the school at Moradabad is one of the best. During the year 14 students passed out of the school, and started work at their own homes. Some difficulty has been experienced in getting knitting machines and needles. At Muzaffarnagar the school undertook work for a firm which received a large order from the Indian Munitions Board for blankets. It was found, however, that this work interfered with the training of the students, and it was therefore discontinued. At Bara Banki, the knitting section has expanded considerably, the number of students rising from 5 to 22, which is probably too many for the number of machines. In the weaving section the number of students fell from 24 to 20, which is all that can be conveniently accommodated. The school at Shahjahanpur was somewhat handicapped by the Army Clothing Department paying higher wages than are usual in the district. Notwithstanding this, however, the attendance register shows a considerable increase. At Sandila, there has been a change of Superintendent with satisfactory results. The weaving school at Almora has been closed, but the knitting section is being continued, and appears to be doing well. A new peripatetic weaving school has been started at Mau under favourable conditions. It was welcomed by the local weavers and all the machines were soon at work.

Joint stock Companies.

184. Five new Joint Stock Companies with registered capital of Rs. 18,90,000, were registered during the year.

33—Trade.

(For details see the annual reports on inland and foreign trade for the year ending 31st March, 1918 and the accounts of trade carried by rail and river in India.)

185. No additions were made to the railway systems. **Additions to the railway system.**

186. The volume of the rail-borne traffic decreased by about two lakhs of maunds in weight, but the value rose by 858½ lakhs of rupees. The decline in imports was chiefly in coal and coke, grains and salt; exports improved considerably, this being principally due to the increase under grains. **Total rail-borne traffic.**

187. Imports fell by 100½ lakhs of maunds. The trade with Rajputana and Central India which increased by over 40 lakhs of maunds in 1916-17 declined by 37½ lakhs of maunds, the fall being chiefly in imports of grains and salt. Smaller receipts of coal and coke resulted in a decrease of 32 lakhs of maunds in the trade with Bihar and Orissa. Larger supplies of oilseeds were received from the Punjab and imports of wool, nearly all of which went to Cawnpore, rose by 65,979 maunds. With these exceptions, however, there was a general decrease due for the most part to freight difficulties and high prices. Of special importance in its effect on the prices of other foodstuffs was the great falling-off in the imports of Burma rice. The total imported from Calcutta amounted to 595 thousand maunds against 1,435 thousand maunds in 1916-17 and 3,006 thousand maunds in 1915-16. The decrease in the imports of cotton goods amounted to 64,535 maunds, of metals to 329,732 maunds, and of kerosine oil to 1,54,665 maunds, the decrease in the latter occurring chiefly in the imports from Bengal. Imports of railway plant fell from 1,800,771 to 1,148,847 maunds, and imports of salt from 73 to 56 maunds. Under sugar the net decrease was 45,589 maunds. **Imports.**

188. Exports which had fallen by 73,310 maunds in the previous year rose by 98½ lakhs of maunds. Exports to Calcutta alone show a decrease, owing mainly to smaller despatch of oilseeds. Exports to Karachi and Bombay port rose by 100 and 21 lakhs of maunds respectively, due chiefly to large exports of fodder and grains. Exports to Bombay Presidency rose by 7½ lakhs of maunds, there being an increase of 9¾ lakhs of maunds under grains and a decrease of three lakhs of maunds under sugar. There was a general improvement in the export trade to the Central Provinces and Berar amounting to seven lakhs of maunds. In the trade with the Punjab exports of fodder, oilseeds, sugar, and railway plant show decreases, while grains, mineral substances, and other merchandise exhibit an increase. The cotton crop was one of the worst for a number of years past and cotton exports fell accordingly from 1,208,295 to 670,355 maunds. Exports of hay, straw and grass rose from 15·73 lakhs to 24·58 lakhs of maunds, most of which went to Karachi and Bombay port for Army purposes. The export of bran and crushed food increased by 317,000 maunds, and of grain and pulse by 135 lakhs of maunds, Bombay port, Karachi, and Calcutta taking the bulk. Exports of raw hides dropped by 73,516 maunds and of raw skins by 133,698 maunds. Exports of mineral substances rose by 810,762 maunds owing mainly to large exports of marble and stone to Rajputana, Central India, Bihar and Orissa, and the Punjab. The net decrease in oilseeds exported was 52 lakhs of maunds. Sugar exports declined by over eight lakhs of maunds, shortage of freight being the cause. There was an increase of 2,230 maunds in the exports of Indian tea and of 310,753 maunds in the exports of timber excluding railway sleepers. **Exports.**

189. The trade of Cawnpore city formed 12·4 per cent. of the total external trade of the province. War industries continued to cause an increased consumption of coal, oilseeds, tanning materials, wood, and wool, but grains, gunny bags and cloth, metals, and all other merchandise were received in smaller quantities than in the previous year. Exports of grains rose by 6¼ lakhs of maunds, of fodder by 3¼ lakhs, and of salt by about one lakh of maunds, while exports of oilseeds declined by about three lakhs of maunds. **Trade of Cawnpore.**

190. The volume of rail-borne traffic increased from 355 to 360 lakhs of maunds. Increases occurred chiefly under fodder, mineral substances, and **Internal rail-borne traffic.**

wood, there being a decrease under nearly all other heads. Benares and Gorakhpur curtailed and the Upper Doab increased its imports of grains. A decrease under grains in Rohilkhand is counterbalanced by an increase in imports under other heads. There was a decline in the export of grains from Bundelkhand and North Oudh, but an increase from Benares and Rohilkhand.

River-borne traffic.

191. The river-borne traffic with Calcutta amounted to 79,790 maunds imports and 33,152 maunds exports as compared with 104,169 maunds and 26,017 maunds respectively in the previous year. Imports of cotton goods, grains, metals, and salt were reduced, while those of gunny bags and cloth, sugar and spices improved. Exports of fodder, grains, and oilseeds increased.

FOREIGN TRADE.

Tibet.

192. Imports from Tibet show a slight decrease amounting to 2,923 maunds in weight, but their value rose by Rs. 1,63,985, while the exports rose by 5,735 maunds in weight and by Rs. 63,843 in value. All the chief articles of the import trade, borax, salt, and wool, show a decrease. The decline in the imports of wool from 16,012 to 14,524 maunds is attributed to the low price fixed by Government for its sale at the Bhabar markets. There is always strong competition for the available wool, and this has been accentuated by the increased demand of the last few years, so that the fixing of prices at one outlet appears to have caused a diversion further east, Nepalese and traders from the Darjeeling side providing another outlet.

Nepal.

193. Imports from Nepal show an increase of 235,266 maunds in consequence of larger receipts of grains, while the export trade declined by 16,029 maunds owing to smaller despatch of salt. On the other hand, the total value of the imports declined by Rs. 1,99,679, while that of exports rose by Rs. 2,14,819. The increase in imports is shared by all districts which trade with Nepal, except Gonda and Gorakhpur, the largest increases being in Kheri, Basti, and Bahraich. Imports of grains rose by 326,660 maunds, accounted for mainly by these three districts. Imports of fibrous products raw declined by 56,666 maunds, of hides and skins by 14,122 maunds, and of silver coins by 9¾ lakhs of rupees; imports of oilseeds fell from 241,684 maunds to 214,708 maunds. The decline in the exports to Nepal which has been marked for the last five years was under the head of salt and oil and is due to the high price of these commodities in British India. There was some increase under other heads. There was an increase in the trade with the western submontane districts and a decrease with the eastern.

34—Buildings and Roads.

(For details see the annual administration report of the Public Works department, Buildings and Roads Branch, for the year ending 21st March, 1918.)

Revenue and expenditure.

194. The revenue realised during the year by the Buildings and Roads Branch of the Public Works department amounted to Rs. 4·03 lakhs, of which Rs. 3·56 lakhs were provincial. The actual expenditure totalled Rs. 99·84 lakhs, of which Rs. 4·36 lakhs were for imperial works, Rs. 4,117 for famine relief, Rs. 55·56 lakhs for provincial works, Rs. 29·59 lakhs for excluded local funds, and Rs. 10·28 lakhs for contribution works. The reduction of nearly Rs. 12 lakhs in expenditure is due to the continuance of the policy of restricting expenditure during the War to works which are absolutely necessary for maintaining and conserving the fabric of administration.

Imperial buildings.

195. Expenditure on imperial buildings rose slightly, but operations under this head were again confined mostly to the needs of the Bacteriological department at Mukhtesar. A sum of Rs 58,209 was spent on acquiring land for the erection of additional bulidings for the Survey of India at Dehra Dun.

Provincial buildings.

196. The outlay on provincial buildings was restricted to a sum of Rs. 10,55,603 or a reduction of nearly Rs. 11 lakhs as compared with that of the preceding year. Of this, some Rs. 4 lakhs were spent in furthering progress on educational buildings. These include the new high school-buildings at Amroha in the Moradabad district and at Cawnpore : additional clas-srooms.

for the high schools at Muttra and Allahabad and at the Husainabad school at Lucknow: and the hostels for the high school at Rae Bareli and the training college at Allahabad. Treasury offices were built at Lakhimpur and Pilibhit, and good progress was made on the Deputy Commissioner's court-house at Unao. The construction of the new tahsil at Mehroni in the Jhansi district was begun and the new group of court-buildings at Jaunpur was practically completed. Of the nineteen new police stations eight were completed and progress on the remainder was as satisfactory as could be expected. Under the head of Law and Justice the outlay was mainly directed towards the erection of a new munsifi at Khurja in the Bulandshahr district and the collection of materials for new civil courts at Pilibhit and Basti. Work on the hospital at Muttra and the female hospital at Basti is still in progress, as also is the construction of a fifth class jail at Ballia. Work on a bund for the protection of Ballia town from the floods of the river Ganges was commenced. The total outlay on buildings erected as "contribution works" amounted to Rs. 1,40,111. Half of this sum was utilized on the Dufferin hospitals at Fyzabad and Gorakhpur, which were completed and handed over to the Medical department for occupation.

Communications.

197. Although the shortage of railway waggons caused difficulties better progress was possible under the head of "Communications" than on buildings. Expenditure rose from Rs. 23·98 to Rs. 24·40 lakhs. Expenditure on original works remained about the same, nearly Rs. 4 lakhs. An additional length of 73 miles was metalled, thus bringing the total provincial mileage of metalled roads to 7,228, excluding 21 miles maintained by local authorities. The number of miles of unmetalled roads under departmental control remained at 1,476. Satisfactory progress continued to be maintained on the diversion of the Meerut, Moradabad and Bareilly road to serve an important overbridge under erection by the Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway, but work on the project for connecting the Punjab with the United Provinces through Saharanpur was retarded by the shortage of railway waggons. Protective works to safeguard the Song river bridge on the Raiwala-Rikhikesh road in the Dehra Dun district were taken in hand. Work was started on a new road to Mussoorie, the old road having proved unsatisfactory, landslips occurring annually for some time past. The rough estimate for the new roads is nearly 3 lakhs, of which the municipal board will contribute one lakh. The diversion of the Brewery-Naini Tal Cart-Road and the renewal of the bridge over the Ballia ravine in the Naini Tal district was completed. Nearly a lakh was spent during the year on the new pilgrim road from Bhatrojkhan to Ganai in the Almora district and improvements costing Rs. 23,427 were carried out on the Rudraprayag-Kedarnath road in the Garhwal district. Improvements to the Mirzapur-Gaipura road in the Mirzapur district were completed and the construction of railway feeder roads to connect the Cawnpore, Hamirpur, and Saugor roads with stations on the Cawnpore-Banda railway was practically completed. In the fourth circle operations were confined mainly to the construction of protective works in the Gorakhpur district. Much useful work was done on district board roads, chiefly in the districts of Agra, Etah, Aligarh, Moradabad, Sitapur, Pilibhit, Gorakpur, Bahraich, Azamgarh, and Basti.

Navigation.

198. Navigation works were carried out in the same districts as in previous years. A sum of Rs. 8,799 was spent in maintaining in a navigable condition 343 miles of the Ganges from Allahabad to Ballia and 97 miles of the Gogra in the Ballia and Azamgarh districts.

Electric light and power.

199. Very little installation work could be carried out owing to the universal scarcity of suitable materials and the special electrical division was abolished. Only 158 fans were obtained during the year for Allahabad and were distributed over the public offices on Queen's Road, the Mayo Hall, and the new High Court. Installations were also carried out at the War Hospital in Dehra Dun, the Currency office in Cawnpore, and seven groups of Government buildings in Lucknow.

Sanitary works.

200. The financial position, rise in prices, and the difficulty in getting machinery, pipes, and other materials caused a considerable reduction in expenditure on sanitary works. The total amount spent on construction and maintenance was Rs. 16 lakhs, of which Rs. 8 lakhs were spent

on original works as against Rs. 23 lakhs and Rs. 16 lakhs respectively last year. The aggregate value of projects in hand amounted to Rs. 154 lakhs and projects to the value of Rs. 63 lakhs were completed and submitted for sanction. Tube wells continued to give satisfactory results and the construction of others was begun at Allahabad, Cawnpore, and Tundla. The completion of the water-works schemes at Fyzabad and Aligarh has had to be postponed till the end of the War. A sum of Rs. 2,97,531 was spent on the construction of drainage works. Projects for drainage improvements at Allahabad and Moradabad were sanctioned, but it is doubtful whether the work can be undertaken at present. Drainage works extensions were carried out in Benares at a cost of Rs. 31,227. The Meerut anti-malarial scheme was completed at a cost of over a lakh. The re-aligning of *nalas* at Saharanpur was completed. Progress on the Landour bazar drainage scheme was retarded owing to the difficulty in getting necessary materials and labour.

Arboriculture. 201. Arboricultural operations included 69 miles planted and 1,645 maintained at a cost of Rs. 79,217. Revenue from the sale of produce amounted to Rs. 28,243.

Private works. 202. In addition to the contribution works already mentioned Rs. 1,84,131 were contributed by private individuals for the construction of works of public utility, such as *dharamshalas*, wells, schools, etc.

General. 203. The establishment was still further depleted by the deputation of three more officers and six more upper subordinates to military duty. The difficulty of providing adequate supervision and of maintaining normal efficiency was consequently still more marked than it was last year and it was found necessary to re-constitute the territorial limits of the Public Works department divisional charges for the period of the War, this being effected by the abolition of the Moradabad, Farrukhabad, and Gorakhpur divisions and the temporary absorption of their districts in other divisions.

35—Canals.

(For details see the annual administration report of the Public Works department, Irrigation branch, for the year ending 31st March, 1918.)

Outlay and construction. 204. The capital expenditure on canals during the year was 13·67 lakhs, bringing the total capital outlay to the end of the year to 13·05 crores. Of the year's expenditure Rs. 6·66 were spent on protective works, Rs. 6·06 on productive works, and the balance on minor works. The outlay on protective works was mainly incurred on the construction of the Ghaggar canal in the Mirzapur district, the Barwar lake and canal in the Jhansi district, the Majhgawan tank in the Hamirpur district, and on works in connection with the Dhasan canal. The major portion of the expenditure on productive works was incurred on the permanent headworks of the Ganges canal at Hardwar. The Garai canal was completed, and there was some outlay in connection with the Eastern Jumna canal. The outlay on minor works was incurred on the construction of tanks in the Jhansi and Banda districts and on works in connection with the Rohilkhand canals, Rs. 31,433 being spent on the Kulli dam.

Works proposed. 205. Estimates for the following three important works have been sanctioned by the Government of India. The first two are productive and the third is a protective work :—

(1) Rajpur feeder, Dun canals. This will supplement the supply in the Rajpur canal and thus supply a long-felt want.

(2) Kho weir, Bijnor canals. This will considerably benefit the Bijnor canals, assuring the supply of water and resulting in an increase in the rice area.

(3) The Raipura tank in the Hamirpur district will irrigate an area of 3,100 acres and 600 acres of the submerged area will be available for the sowing of rabi crops.

Plans and estimates were completed of a scheme to extend irrigation from the Dhasan canal to the Doab between the Barma and Ken rivers in

the Hamirpur district. The project consists of the construction of a weir on the Dhasan river at Kurra and the extension and construction of new channels. It is anticipated that an extra area of 63,674 acres will thus be irrigated annually. Other schemes completed are the Ohen and Urmel canals in the Banda district and the construction of a third weir across the Betwa river at Kaprar. These projects are at present held in abeyance pending settlement of the terms on which land in Native States can be acquired from the Durbars.

206. The expenditure on surveys was restricted owing to lack of funds. The survey of village works for the famine programme was, however, undertaken in the Jalaun, Jhansi, Hamirpur, and Banda districts. Under instructions from the Government of India a survey in connection with the Sarda canal was also undertaken to investigate the sub-soil water level in the districts of Oudh, and to determine whether the branch canals in Oudh could be extended if the supply were supplemented from the Gogra river. **Surveys.**

207. The gross revenue from all classes of works amounted to Rs. 1,26,21,999 or Rs. 41,989 more than the previous year and Rs. 3,72,136 more than that of the year 1915-16. The working expenses, however, increased by Rs. 75,957, due to special works carried out on the Dhasan canal, a protective work, and this resulted in the net revenue being Rs. 33,968 less than last year, the total amounting to Rs. 87,02,152. There was again a falling-off on the protective works and an improvement on the productive works. Minor works showed little change. The gross revenue from protective canals was Rs. 80,781 less than the previous year, this being due to the smaller area irrigated during the rabi. The working expenses, owing to the works on the Dhasan canal, increased by Rs. 80,551 and the total loss after deducting interest charges was 4·27 per cent. on the capital outlay. From productive works there was an increase of over a lakh of rupees in the gross revenue and there was a decrease of Rs. 4,850 in the working expenses. The net gain was 5·46 per cent. on the capital outlay. The net profit from the working of all the canals after deducting interest charges was Rs. 45,90,833 as compared with Rs. 48,80,081 in 1916-17 and Rs. 43,80,648 in 1915-16. Under the terms of the provincial contract, the Local Government retains the direct revenue from the major productive and minor irrigation works, while meeting all charges for the latter and providing for all outlay on improvements and maintenance, as well as paying interest on the capital expenditure for the former. The Government of India, however, guarantee to make good any deficiency in the net revenue from major productive works below 55½ lakhs. This year the net revenue for major productive works rose from 67·6 to 68·69 lakhs, or more than 13 lakhs in excess of the guaranteed minimum. This is the fifth consecutive year in which there has been a surplus over the guaranteed amount. **Financial results.**

208. The gross revenue (canal rates, etc.,) assessed rose from 120·5 to 129·8 lakhs, or an increase of over nine lakhs. This is due to the larger area irrigated by the protective and productive canals. **Assessments.**

209. The total length of channels at the close of the year was 16,033 miles or 56 miles more than last year, the increase being mainly on the Upper Ganges canal. **Mileage of canals.**

36—*Irrigation.*

210. The total area irrigated by all canals was 3,209,425 acres, an increase of 297,334 acres on the previous year and 68,309 acres in excess of the average area irrigated during the year ending 1916-17. The monsoon set in by the end of June and continued till the end of October. The kharif demand for water was variable, not strong on any of the canals except on the Lower Ganges canal for indigo in April and for cotton in May, and on the Eastern Jumna canal for sugarcane. Supplies were sufficient on all canals except on the Eastern Jumna canal; and on the canals in the Mirzapur district no water was available except on the Sukhra canal, which irrigated a small area of sugarcane. There was no demand for water for the rabi till December and the demand then continued till the end of the season. Supplies were sufficient on all canals. **Irrigated area.**

Crops irrigated.

211. The total value of the crops irrigated was 17·67 crores as compared with 16·26 crores in 1916-17, the rate per acre being 55·08 compared with 55·86 in the previous year. There was an increase in the area of all crops irrigated except in the case of the inferior food grains. The sugarcane area of 365,605 acres was the highest on record, the increase being 5,639 acres over the next highest record in 1912-13. The area under wheat was 9,34,760 acres or an increase of 75,252 acres compared with the area irrigated in the previous year. The area is, however, 53,404 acres less than that irrigated in 1905-06 and 123,871 acres less than the record area irrigated in 1899-1900. The indigo area irrigated was 156,543 acres, which is an increase of 30,719 acres over the area irrigated in 1916-17, and an increase of 140,093 acres as compared with the average area irrigated in the ten years ending 1915-16.

CHAPTER V.—REVENUE AND FINANCE.

(a) IMPERIAL REVENUE AND FINANCE.

[*For details see the accounts for the year* 1917-18, *and the tables in Part IV (a) and (b)—Statistics of British India.*]

37—Gross revenue.

212. The imperial share of the gross revenue realised amounted to Rs. 4,99,26,900 as compared with Rs. 4,91,31,036 in the year 1916-17.

38—Land revenue.

213. The gross land revenue realised was Rs. 6,50,75,723, of which the imperial share was Rs. 3,92,05,997. The corresponding figures for the previous year were Rs. 6,45,44,156 and Rs. 3,88,77,998 respectively.

39—Canal revenue.

214. The gross direct revenue accruing from canals rose from Rs. 1,04,79,385 in 1916-17 to Rs. 1,05,03,266.

40—Excise.

(For details see the annual report on the Administration of Excise for the year ending 31*st March,* 1918 *and the tables under the head "Excise," Part IV (b)—Statistics of British India.)*

Receipts.

215. The year was again one of agricultural and commercial prosperity which resulted despite increases in duty in an increase in consumption of country spirit and charas. There was, however, a decrease in the consumption of opium, ganja, and bhang, this in the case of opium being explained by restricted issues and in the case of bhang by the lower limit of retail sale now permitted. The policy of gradually reducing the number of shops was continued. Total receipts showed a further large increase, rising by 10·23 lakhs from 131·82 to 142·05 lakhs, nearly three-quarters of this increase falling under the head country spirit.

Collections.

216. Of the total demand of 143·37 lakhs 142·80 lakhs or 99·6 per cent. were collected. Part of the arrears noted in last year's report are still outstanding, realisation in two cases having proved difficult.

Country spirit.

217. The total receipts from country spirit rose by 9·2 per cent. from 81·19 to 88·64 lakhs. The incidence of total revenue and the incidence of duty per proof gallon were the highest on record, being Rs. 5-15-3 and Rs. 3-14-4 respectively as against Rs. 5-7-4 and Rs. 3-11-3 in the previous year, while the incidence of licence fees rose from Rs. 1-12-1 to Rs. 2-0-11. Consumption rose slightly from 1,455,000 to 1,460,000 gallons. There were slight decreases in 22 districts, 10 of these being in Oudh, which showed a decrease of 9·2 per cent. The largest increase (31 per cent.) occurred in the Agra district, and is attributed to a

severe outbreak of plague, in which country spirit was used as a preventive medicine. Receipts from duty increased from last year's record figure of 53·92 lakhs to 56·89 lakhs. Duty was enhanced in three towns and twelve districts from 1st April, 1917 and enhancements have been sanctioned from 1st April, 1918, in 37 districts or parts of districts. There was no change in private or Government distilleries. Non-contract warehouses fell from 15 to 11. A new warehouse was opened at Bulandshahr, but those at Etah, Farrukhabad, Basti, Gonda, and Bahraich became contract warehouses. The number of retail country spirit shops fell from 4,318 to 4,248. The surcharge fixed fee system has now been in force in the Muzaffarnagar district for two years. It cannot yet be said that the system has proved a success in every respect, but there is little doubt that it has caused a fall in consumption.

Contract supply system.

218. The contract supply system was introduced into the Farrukhabad, Etah, Basti, Gonda, and Bahraich districts. From 1st April, 1918 it has been extended to seven more, bringing the present total up to 39 and the remaining nine districts will probably come under the contract system in 1920 and 1921.

Outstill areas.

219. The income from outstills fell from Rs. 1,67,743 to Rs. 1,67,103. From 1st April, 1917 a small part of the Mirzapur district came under the distillery system. From 1st April, 1919 the whole outstill system in the Allahabad district will also come under the more advanced system.

Hemp drugs.

220. Licence fees on hemp drugs, which fell last year by $2\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs owing to enhancement of duty, rose by $\frac{3}{4}$ lakh to $15\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs. Income from duty increased from 12·58 to 13·32 lakhs and the total revenue from hemp drugs increased from 27·11 to 28·62. Consumption of ganja showed a slight fall, but that of charas rose from 48,365 to 53,575 seers, the increase being probably due to gatherings of sadhus in connection with the Kumbh Mela. Consumption of bhang fell from 214,528 to 191,110 seers.

Opium.

221. The total revenue from opium rose from 12·40 lakhs to 13·78 lakhs. Licence fees rose from 4·56 to 5·62 lakhs. The number of shops decreased from 1,065 to 1,053 and consumption fell from 60,153 to 55,095 seers, due to increase of wholesale price and restriction of issues as a check on smuggling. This is the lowest figure during the past 20 years. The provincial average retail price rose from about Rs. 40 to Rs. 45 per seer, the issue price being Rs. 25 in 40 districts and Rs. 27-8-0 in eight districts. The issue price has been further raised to Rs. 30 and Rs. 32-8-0 in these districts respectively from 1st April, 1918. Restrictions of issue were enforced in the districts of Allahabad, Benares, Mirzapur, Jaunpur, Ghazipur, and Lucknow. As a result of measures taken in Lucknow city there has been a fall in consumption from 3,292 to 1,845 seers and there can be little doubt that smuggling has stopped. Similar measures such as selection of vendors, fixation of licence fees, fixation of minimum retail price, and restriction of issues were taken in the districts of Jaunpur and Benares and the cities of Allahabad and Cawnpore with apparent success.

Tari and Sendhi

222. Licence fees of tari rose from 3·47 to 3·58 lakhs. More than two thirds of the income under this head accrues in the Benares and Gorakhpur divisions and nearly one-third in the Gorakhpur district alone. The number of shops was reduced from 2,749 to 2,702.

Foreign liquor.

223. Foreign liquor licence fees again fell from Rs. 53,582 to Rs. 52,138, and the number of licences of all kinds under this head from 540 to 522. These decreases are due to the increased retail price of imported wine and spirits, owing to enhancement of duty and scarcity of shipping. Issues of locally-manufactured "foreign" liquor fell from 144,104 to 110,974 L. P. gallons, the fall being due to the decrease in duty-free issues of rum to the Commissariat department from 85,463 to 42,795 gallons. Issues of beer from the three breweries in the provinces rose from 125,261 to 131,337 gallons. Issues of sophisticated spirits paying full duty rose from 22,947 to 26,547 gallons, due to the difficulty and expense of obtaining imported spirits. Issues of denatured spirit fell from 36,794 to 29,403 gallons and issues of rectified spirit from 30,717 to 28,124 gallons. The most remarkable feature of sales under wholesale licences is a large decrease under spirits and a very

large increase under beer, the latter being used as a substitute for the former owing to the scarcity and high cost of imported spirits.

Prosecutions.

224. The total number of prosecutions under the Excise Act decreased from 1,293 to 1,002. There was again a fall in the number of cases of illicit distillation, partially due to a poor mahwa crop. Allahabad, Fatehpur, and Partabgarh continue to provide two-thirds of the cases under this head. Cases of cocaine smuggling also fell from 50 to 34, Allahabad accounting for 10. Convictions for drunkenness increased from 1,899 to 2,052. Cawnpore has the worst record in this respect, closely followed by Allahabad and Benares. Allahabad has increased its rate from the previous year's figure of 8·4 per 1,000 to 14·5; Cawnpore from 12·1 to 16·2, and Benares from 11·8 to 13·3. Opium cases decreased from 447 to 391, and it may be concluded from this decrease, coupled with the decrease in consumption, that the preventive and punitive measures of recent years have really decreased the smuggling of opium from these provinces.

General.

225. Difficulties have occurred during the year, as in other departments, owing to the shortage of railway transport. Since the end of the year two of the private distilleries have been obliged to shut down for considerable periods for want of coal. Meetings of advisory committees regarding the maximum and minimum number of shops were held in 82 municipalities. Their recommendations were with modifications in some cases accepted by the Board. Conferences of officers of the Revenue, Police, and Excise departments for the promotion of inter-departmental co-operation were held in nearly every district. It has been found that the system of dual control over inspectors by Collectors and Assistant Excise Commissioners leads to some difficulties in working, but very few cases of serious friction occurred during the year. Temperance societies continued to do good work.

41—Stamps.

(For details see the annual reports on the stamp returns for the year ending 31st March, 1918 and the tables under the head "Stamp," Part IV(b)—Statistics of British India.)

Receipts and charges.

226. There was again an increase in the gross receipts under the Stamp and Court Fees Acts, though it was less than the increase of the previous year, the rise being from 129·92 to 131·59 lakhs. The increase is not abnormal and calls for no particular comment. Charges increased from 3·04 to 3·12 lakhs.

Judicial stamps.

227. The gross income from judicial stamps showed a further increase from 103·68 to 104·03 lakhs. There was again a marked fall in the sale of plain water-marked paper which, as noted last year, is tending to go out of use. The chief rise was in the sale of stamps for copies from 5·51 to 5·74 lakhs.

Non-judicial stamps.

228. The value of non-judicial stamps sold rose from 26·24 to 27·55 lakhs; the increase in the total receipts under the two Acts for the year is thus mainly attributable to this head. Impressed stamps, hundis and stamps for legal practitioners' licences account for the increase, other heads showing a decrease.

Prosecutions.

229. Prosecutions fell from 1,048 to 904, which is, however, 40 more than in 1915-16. Cases of insufficiently stamped or unstamped documents fell from 2,668 to 2,514. The sum realized in duty or penalty, however, rose from Rs. 26,838 to Rs. 27,107.

42—Assessed Taxes.

(For details see the annual income-tax returns of the province for the year ending 31st March, 1918 and the tables under the head "Income-tax," Part V (b)—Statistics of British India.)

Income-tax.

230. Income-tax is the only directly assessed tax in the provinces. The net collections during the year rose from 42·33 to 46·74 lakhs. The total demand was 39·36 lakhs, of which 39·23 lakhs were collected as against 35·39 and 35·28 lakhs respectively in the previous year. Appeals and objections fell from 9,122 to 8,730 and the percentage of wholly unsuccessful appeals and objections rose from 68·79 to 73·84. Writs of demand and

other coercive processes aggregated 1,121 and 9,017 as against 1965 and 7,098 respectively in the preceding year. The expenditure incurred in assessment and collection rose from Rs. 2,092 to Rs. 2,205. Half of the proceeds of the tax after deducting cost of collection goes to Imperial revenues. No changes in the system of collection took place during the year. The new Act did not come into force till 1st April, 1918 and the deputation of whole-time deputy collectors in most districts to income-tax work and the appointment of an Income-tax Commissioner took place subsequently.

43 Any other taxes levied for Imperial purposes.

231. The yield from customs the whole of which is credited to the Imperial Exchequer was Rs. 2,70,145 as compared with Rs. 2,22,093 in the previous year. Excise duty on cotton manufactures is the only customs duty levied in these provinces.

44—Forests.

232. The receipts from forests are no longer shared between the Imperial and Provincial revenues, but credited entirely to the latter.

45—Provincial revenues.

(*For details see the Government resolution on the provincial revenues of* 1917-18.)

Financial position.

233. Financial conditions were similar to those of the previous year and the policy of caution dictated by the prolongation of the War was accordingly continued. In framing the estimates cautious figures were adopted for the revenue heads likely to be affected by the continuance of war conditions, while on the expenditure side all proposals for new charges not immediately remunerative or imperatively necessary were excluded. In its final results the year was very similar to 1916-17. With the exception of Stamps all the principal heads of revenue showed an improvement on the budget figures, while expenditure was much below the estimates, and the closing balance stood at 245·36 lakhs. The general results of the year's transactions as compared with those of the previous year are set forth in the table below:—

	1916-17. Lakhs.	1917-18. Lakhs.	Difference. Lakhs.
Opening balance	155·35	192·44	+37·09
Receipts	701·96	730·62	+28·66
Charges	664·87	677·70	+12·83
Closing balance	192·44	245·36	+52·92

The closing balance of 245·36 lakhs includes 51·68 lakhs on account of unspent portions of imperial grants for education, sanitation, agricultural developments, and the general purposes of the administration. The real closing balance was therefore 193·68 lakhs.

No change was made in either the provincial form of accounts or the terms of the provincial settlement, except in regard to the arrangements for famine expenditure. The old "famine insurance scheme" has now been abolished and replaced by a new arrangement under which all expenditure on famine relief will be divided between Imperial and Provincial in the proportion of three-fourths and one-fourth; while if the provincial share of outlay should be so great as to reduce the balance below one-half of the prescribed minimum of 20 lakhs, the question of further expenditure will be a subject for special treatment at the time.

Receipts.

234. The larger variations in income are tabulated below :—

	Increase. Lakhs.	Decrease. Lakhs.
Land revenue	2·03	
Transfers from imperial to provincial ...	5·36	
Interest		2·81
Provincial rates	8	
Forests	10·76	
Excise	7·02	
Irrigation	1·07	
Income-tax...	2·20	

The increase under Land revenue is due to improved collections There were various changes under the head of Transfers from Imperial to Provincial. Formerly the receipts included 4·50 lakhs for the famine insurance scheme. This has now been excluded. Additional grants from Imperial in the year under report amounted to 10·38 lakhs. Of these the more important were a non-recurring grant of 7·75 lakhs for agricultural improvements assigned by the Government of India from the profits of he wheat scheme and a recurring grant of 2·50 lakhs for the training of teachers. The receipts under the head of Interest depend upon the state of the loan account and the decrease is due to smaller outstandings. The income under the head of Provincial Rates varies with the number and the cost of management of the estates under the Court of Wards. The great expansion of the activities of the Forest department accounts for the increase under that head. The increase under Excise is due to enhanced duties and to the general prosperity of the provinces which resulted in larger consumption, especially of country spirit. An increase in the area irrigated accounts for the rise under Irrigation, while the increase under income-tax is partly the result of war conditions, partly of the enhancement of rates.

Expenditure.

235. The more important variations in provincial expenditure are summarised below :—

	Increase. Lakhs.	Decrease. Lakhs.
Civil Works	...	5·08
Courts of Law	...	·63
Stationery	...	.49
Sanitation	8·71	..
Forests	4·69	...
Education	4.45	...
Agriculture	2·58	...
Irrigation debt	1·89	...
Superannuation charges ...	1·14	...

The reduction under Civil Works and Stationery was due to the enforcement of further economies, while the decrease under Courts of Law was due mainly to the deputation of officers to military duty, the lower charges on account of exchange compensation allowance and a slight decrease under fees paid to counsel and to officers on special duty. The increase under Sanitation is due to more liberal grants being given to local authorities for sanitary purposes. The increased expenditure on Forests is entirely of a remunerative character and includes a non-recurring item of 1·50 lakhs for a new distillery at Bareilly. The increase under Education is mainly due to larger grants to private institutions, most of which is of a non-recurring character. Under Agriculture the increase includes a special additional charge of ·55 lakh in connection with the Kumbh Fair and of ·15 lakh on opium experiments. The major portion of the balance was devoted to the creation of new experimental farms. A rise in the rate of interest accounts for the increase on Irrigation debt charges. The increase under Superannuation charges owing to the restrictions placed on the commutation of pensions during the War is much below the normal.

236. The general results of the year's transactions as compared with the original budget estimates were as follows:— Provincial budget.

	Budget Lakhs.	Accounts. Lakhs.	Difference. Lakhs.
Opening balance ...	172·83	192·44	+19·61
Receipts	695·84	730·62	+34·78
Charges	695·98	677·70	—18·28
Balance	172·69	245·36	+72·67

The budget anticipated a small deficit of ·14 lakh on the year's transactions, but the actual figures showed a surplus of 52·92 laks, leaving a net improvement of 53 03 lakhs to be accounted for. Various additions under the "transfer" head sanctioned by the Government of India after the budget was passed led to a corresponding increase in expenditure and did not affect the final result. Other changes under the same head raise the amount to be accounted for to 53·59 lakhs and modifications in connection with the Provincial loan account the receipts and charges of which are difficult to determine in advance reduced it to 53·38 lakhs. This is due to income under various heads being 32·16 lakhs above the estimate and expenditure being 21·22 lakhs below it.

More than half of the increase in the revenue (17·32 lakhs) occurs under Forests. Large collections in the previous year occurring after the budget for 1917-18, had been framed account for the low estimate of receipts The next largest increase occurred under the head of Irrigation where the receipts were 7·69 lakhs above the estimate which had been based on the figures for a normal year. The receipts from Excise and Income Tax were 5·54 and 2·53 lakhs respectively above the budget estimate. The estimates under both heads had been cautiously framed owing to their being likely to be affected by war conditions. The only head under which there was a serious reduction as compared with the estimates was that of Stamps where the provincial share of receipts was 1·24 lakhs below what was anticipated.

The net reduction of 21·22 lakhs in actuals as compared with the budgeted expenditure is made up of gross reductions amounting to 27·99 lakhs under various heads and increases of 6·77 lakhs under other heads. Leaving nominal variations out of account, the most important increases in expenditure were those of 5·25 lakhs under Sanitation due to special non-recurring grants for large urban improvement schemes, and of 1·26 lakhs under Forests. The financing of the commercial activities of the Forest department does not adapt itself easily to the rigidity of the ordinary budget procedure. The reductions under other heads are almost entirely due to circumstances peculiar to the year or to the enforcement of economy. Thus deputation to military duty and the reduction in the rate of exchange compensation allowance account for a reduction of about 4 lakhs under various heads; the easiness of prices accounts for a decrease of ·86 lakh in Jail charges and for a saving of about 3·50 lakhs in the allotment of grain compensation allowance; a reduction in the rate of interest under Irrigation accounts for a saving of ·98 lakh, while further economies in stationery and printing made it possible to curtail the estimated expenditure by 2·67 lakhs. There was a large saving of 7·18 lakhs under Agriculture, mainly due to lapses in lump grants for agricutural improvements owing to the difficulty of obtaining plant and also owing to intimation of the large grant from Imperial revenues being received too late to enable adequate steps to be taken for its utilization in full. Lapses of approximately 4·50 lakhs occurred in the allotments for public works expenditure. The heads most affected by the savings under establishment owing to deputations to war duty were those of Land Revenue, Courts of Law, and Police. Courts of Law, showed a saving of 1·33 and Land Revenue of 2·72 lakhs; while Police showed a reduction of 1·30 lakhs, in spite of a counterbalancing increase of ·42 lakh owing to the increase in the pay of constables. Other variations call for no comment, being due to the enforcement of economies in all directions.

46—Local Revenues.

(For details see the report on Local Funds for the year 1917-18 *and the annual report on the working of the district boards for the year ending* 31*st March,* 1918.*)*

237. The opening balance of excluded local funds was 85·39 lakhs. Receipts amounted to 141·89 lakhs and expenditure to 174 lakhs, as compared with 131·53 and 130·22 lakhs respectively in 1916-17, leaving a closing balance of 53·28 lakhs. Each class of fund was solvent. The finances of the district boards which form by far the most important item have been dealt with in detail in Chapter III of this report. The differences shown above between the figures for the year under review and those for the previous year are mainly the result of the variations in the district boards' funds. The other chief heads were the cantonment, town and bazar, medical, charitable and educational funds. The cantonment fund opened with a balance of 3·35 lakhs, received 11·4 lakhs and expended 11·42 lakhs. The corresponding figures for the town and bazar funds was 2·55, 5·34, and 5·36 lakhs respectively. Medical and charitable funds received 4·37 during the year, and expended only one lakh, leaving a closing balance of over four lakhs, mainly accounted for by the Sadabart Fund. The educational funds consisted of the Lyall Collegiate School Fund, Gonda, and the Colvin Institute Fund, Sitapur. The totals for the combined opening balance, receipts and charges were Rs. 2,183, Rs. 22,266, and Rs. 17,648 respectively. The number of towns under the operation of Act II of 1914 was 278.

47—Municipal Fund.

(For details see the annual review of municipal administration for the year ending 31*st March,* 1918.*)*

238. The aggregate balance of the municipalities of the province at the close of the previous year was Rs. 38·12. The reduction of Kandhla to a notified area somewhat reduced the opening balance of the year under review. Receipts and expenditure during the year, including loans and deposits, totalled 112·49 and 114·14 lakhs respectively, and the closing balance was 36·31 lakhs. The income from the 48 notified areas of the province, excluding the opening balance, increased from 3·75 to 4 lakhs, and their expenditure from 3·63 to 4·71 lakhs. Their closing balances fell from 1·77 to 1·09 lakhs.

Chapter VI.—VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICES.

48—Details of census.

(*See under "Details of the last census." Chapter I of the report for* 1911.)

49—Births and deaths.

(For details see the annual report of the Sanitary Commissioner for the year ending 31*st December,* 1917 *and the tables under the head "Vital Statistics," Part V, Statistics of British India).*

Births. 239. The total number of births registered during the year was 2,157,642, an increase of 139,886 on the preceding year. The birth rate thus rose from 43·09 to 46·08, which is only exceeded by the Central Provinces and Delhi. The rate was below the monthly provincial average during the months of February, April, May, June, and July, and higher in the remaining months of the year, September being the most prolific. The proportion of male to female births remained practically the same as in the last seven years, being 108·36 to 100. The provincial birth rate exceeded the death rate by 8·17 per mille as compared with 13·59 in 1916. There was an excess in all districts except Shahjahanpur, Pilibhit, Naini Tal, Budaun, Kheri, Bareilly, and Ghazipur. Fever and cholera were the main cause of the

excess of deaths over births in these districts, plague also being a contributary factor in Ghazipur. As last year Hamirpur showed the highest birth rate, 56·35. It is followed by Farrukhabad, Jhansi, Agra, Sitapur, and Bahraich in the order named, of which districts only Jhansi was among the first five in 1916. Dehra Dun and Naini Tal again recorded the lowest birth rates. In municipalities the rate rose to 47·93, the highest recorded during the last 37 years. Of the 84 municipalities 41 showed a higher rate than this, Firozabad again standing first with 77·08, followed by Dhampur with 66·11, Kasganj with 60·32, Agra with 60·17, Ujhani with 58·98, Balrampur with 58·55, Najibabad with 57·31, and Nagina with 56·41. In Mussooree the birth rate was only 10·18, while in Naini Tal, Mainpuri, and Almora it was 20·71, 27·42, and 28·53 respectively. A fluctuating population accounts for the lowness in the first two cases; in Mainpuri it is said to be due to the prevalence of plague in the town for a long period, many people leaving the place in consequence. For the low rate in Almora no explanation is forthcoming. The birth rate of the entire municipal area exceeded the death rate by ·83, as against 8·61 in 1916. 48 municipalities returned birth rates in excess of death rates. In the 46 notified areas 15,468 births were recorded against 14,461 in the same areas in the preceding year, the birth rates being 46·60 and 43·55 respectively.

Deaths.

240. There was a large increase from 1,381,299 to 1,774,896 in the number of deaths recorded, the rate per thousand being 37·91 against 29·50 in 1916. Among the districts showing high mortality Shahjahanpur stands first with a death rate of 79·22 and Pilibhit next with 66·67. After these come Bareilly with 51·77, Budaun with 51·59, Kheri with 50·71, Agra with 48·02, Farrukhabad with 45·88, Bijnor with 45·69, Jhansi with 45·43, and Aligarh with 44·47. The causes of the high mortality in some of these districts have been noted above, in others dysentery was a common cause, but the Sanitary Commissioner has little doubt that one of the main factors, if not the main factor, in all these districts was really relapsing fever. In municipalities the number of deaths rose from 107,353 to 137,981 and the death rate from 36·54 to 47·10. Among the municipalities showing high mortality Tilhar (Shahjahanpur) stands first with a rate of 91·35 and Pilibhit follows with 86·73. Next in order come Firozabad with 82·60, Shahabad with 77·41, Bisalpur with 70·39, and Konch with 68·87. The municipalities showing the lowest death rates are Mussooree with 8·34, Naini Tal with 17·07, Bahraich with 17·73, and Lakhimpur with 20·03. Thirty-six municipalities returned death rates in excess of birth rates, Tilhar and Pilibhit again heading the list. In notified areas deaths rose from 10,529 to 13,845 and the death rate from 31·71 to 41·71. Excluding the deaths from epidemic diseases from the total deaths of the several months, the months of April, May, and December still stand out prominently as the most unhealthy months of the year. The number of deaths among males was 933,723 and among females 841,173, the corresponding death rates being 38·17 and 37·62 against 29·43 and 29·57 in 1916. It is again to be remarked that though the mortality was higher among males yet more females died between the ages of 10 and 30. The rate of infantile mortality rose from 209·7 to 215·7 but although this is higher than the rate of the preceding two years, it is considerably lower than that of other previous years except 1912. More careful enquiries were directed this year into the causes of death and the result confirms the doubt as to the correct diagnosis in former years when a larger number of deaths was ascribed to tetanus. Good progress continues to be made in counter-measures for the reduction of infantile mortality. It is now recognized that the attempt to train bazar dais has been unsuccessful and that the only solution lies in a gradual increase in the number of properly trained dais. The Sanitary Commissioner also lays stress on the need of a cheaper supply of reasonably pure milk. Shahjahanpur heads the list of districts with high infantile mortality with a death rate of 354·13 per 1,000 births. Pilibhit follows with 311·52 and next in order come Naini Tal with 294·78, Bareilly with 288·24, Bijnor with 273,33, Budaun with 270·36, and Kheri with 263·73. Among municipalities the worst record is held by Pilibhit with a death rate of 401·57. Next in order are Shahabad, Ujhani, Tilhar, Bisalpur, Budaun, Firozabad, Etah, and Soron. The average municipal rate rose from 259·24 to 277·72.

Registration of vital statistics.

241. The Deputy Sanitary Commissioner tested 5,395 birth and death entries as against 40,695 in 1916; the percentage of omissions discovered in the birth and death entries were 1·15 and 1·88 respectively. Local authorities tested 708,435 entries as against 594,201 in 1916. The percentage of omissions discovered by them was 2·61 for birth and 1·97 for death entries as against 2·95 and 2·07 in 1916. The vaccination staff tested 1,053,101 entries, an increase of 107,707 on the previous year, and the percentage of omissions discovered was ·38 for births and ·23 for deaths as compared with ·42 and ·24 in 1916. The number of persons fined for neglect in complying with the registration rules rose from 2,166 to 2,982.

Cholera.

242. Cholera mortality fell from 33,300 to 21,440, the rate being ·46 as compared with 1·00, the average for the preceding five years. In January, the month of minimum mortality, only 34 deaths were recorded. June, August, September, October, November, and December were the worst months. the maximum mortality occurring in October, when 6,341 deaths were recorded. Gorakhpur, Partabgarh, Ballia, Ghazipur, Shahjahanpur, and Bijnor were the worst sufferers; Jhansi and Hamirpur were free from the disease and only two deaths were reported from Almora. Of towns Khurja (Bulandshahr) returned the highest death rate with 12·38, followed by Deoband with 11·12. It is not yet possible to come to any definite conclusion as to the success of the 1913 scheme to check the spread of cholera. At present it can only be carried out with difficulty and under disadvantages owing to the want of permanganate of potash, but although it is known that cholera epidemics are not always due to an infected water-supply, the disinfection of wells is the only practical method of doing anything to check the disease in rural areas and the scheme should be continued.

Small-pox.

243. Two thousand and eleven deaths occurred from small-pox, giving a death rate of ·04 per thousand as compared with 1,515 deaths and a death rate of ·03 in 1916. The mortality was highest in May and lowest in October. 660 deaths occurred among infants and 1,071 among children from 1 to 10 years of age against 547 and 713, the figures for 1916. The districts of Fatehpur, Banda, Almora, and Kheri were quite free from the disease as well as 48 towns out of 93. Gorakhpur, Aligarh, Budaun, Allahabad, Basti, Azamgarh, and Bahraich among districts, and Budaun, Rae Bareli, and Hathras among towns had the highest death rate.

Plague.

244. The climatic conditions of the year were favourable for the spead of plague and the number of deaths resulting from it increased from 49,368 to no less than 129,084, the death rate per thousand being 2·76 against 1·05 in the preceding year. The maximum mortality occurred in March with 30,528 deaths and the minimum in July with 669. The number rose again in the winter, there being 21,923 deaths in December. Ghazipur had the highest death rate with 17·80, followed by Ballia with 15·76, Azamgarh with 11·57, Unao with 9·48, Jaunpur with 8·30, and Allahabad with 8·19. Muttra, Garhwal, Almora, and Dehra Dun were entirely free from the disease. Out of 93 towns 33 were entirely free and in 23 the number of deaths did not exceed 10. Among towns the worst sufferers were Mubarakpur with a death rate of 34·47, Konch with 29·49, Sandila with 27·23, Lalitpur with 22·41, Mirzapur-Bindachal with 21·79, Mau with 20·77, Azamgarh with 16·01, and Balrampur with 15·78. The number of inoculations rose from 44,680 to 81,126, of which 49,859 were performed through the agency of travelling dispensaries. Ballia as usual headed the list with 19,807, followed by Gorakhpur with 15,446 and Azamgarh with 13,831.

Fever.

245. Deaths reported as due to "fever" again increased from 997,496 to 1,266,519 and the death rate from 21·30 to 27·05, the quinquennial average being 21·74. The mortality increased steadily from February to May, in which month occurred the maximum number of deaths, 136,639; it then fell equally steadily till September, the autumnal rise beginning in October and continuing till the close of the year. The highest death rates were in Shahjahanpur 68·69, Pilibhit 58·67, Budaun 47·16, Bareilly 46·43, Kheri 44·94, Aligarh 37·16, Naini Tal 35·17, and Agra 35·07. The first four districts are in the Rohilkhand division, the districts of which

generally return high death rates from fever. The mortality, as last year, was lowest in Ballia and Fatehpur, Basti and Allahabad coming next. Of towns Bisalpur with 63·55, Tilhar with 63·54, Shahabad with 58·17, Sherkot with 51·18, and Pilibhit with 50·33 returned the highest death rates, the lowest mortality being in Hapur, Mubarakpur, Mahoba, Mau, and Azamgarh. The year was an unfortunate one as regards malarial investigation. From January to July no new work was undertaken, the major portion of this period being spent in carrying on investigations in the villages of the Tarai and Bhabar of the Naini Tal district. Good progress was made with the anti-malarial schemes at Saharanpur, Meerut, Kosi, and Nagina and anti-malarial investigations at Benares were completed. After July owing to the scarcity of qualified officers malarial investigation had to be closed till the end of the War. Owing to the great rise in the price of quinine and the necessity of conserving the stock in India, the quininization of school children was ordered by Government to be altogether dropped in 1917 and until the price of quinine fell to a reasonable figure. 2,056 one-rupee packets, 1,023 three-rupee packets, and 560 five-rupee packets of quinine were sold during the year as against 6,267 one-rupee packets in the preceding year. Epidemics of relapsing fever were reported from several districts, and the disease was certainly very prevalent in the Rohilkhand and Agra divisions. A note on the symptoms, causation, and treatment was drawn up and supplied to District Officers concerned for distribution. A few cases of typhoid occurred at Bhim Tal and Sat Tal. There was an outbreak of scarlet fever with 133 cases and 38 deaths in the Almora district.

Dysentery, diarrhoea, and respiratory diseases.

246. Deaths from dysentery and diarrhoea totalled 22,308 against 17,731 in 1916, the death rates being ·48 and ·38 respectively, and the quinquennial average ·37. Mortality was highest in May and lowest in February. The death rate was, as usual, highest in Garhwal and Almora with 6·94 and 2·85 respectively, followed by Lucknow, Dehra Dun, and Benares. Basti, Mainpuri, Bahraich, Kheri, and Sultanpur had the best records. Of towns Chandpur heads the list with the death rate of 13·01 followed by Nagina with 12·13. Next in order come Firozabad, Rath, Hapur, Brindaban, Hathras, and Lucknow. Diseases of the respiratory organs accounted for 28,926 deaths as compared with 25,963 in 1916, the death rates being ·62 and ·55 respectively and the quinquennial average ·49. But these diseases are not sufficiently recognized by the local reporting agencies, and judging from the returns of medical practitioners the mortality was really much higher. The highest mortality was in April and the lowest in July. Hamirpur as usual stands first on the list with a death rate of 11·84; Lucknow which comes next has only 3·20. Benares, Dehra Dun, and Almora are the next in order. Of towns Konch, Fyzabad, Farrukhabad, Rath, Hamirpur, Mahoba, Kalpi, and Hapur returned the highest rates.

Injuries.

247. Deaths from injuries fell from 27,149 to 26,753. Suicides increased from 2,219 to 2,404, 1,794 being females. Hardoi has the same number as last year, 117, but this number is exceeded this year by Azamgarh with 124. Agra and Farrukhabad which come next have 100 each. 6,807 deaths were caused by snakes and wild beasts as against 6,921 in 1916, while deaths from rabies fell from 286 to 259.

Deaths from all other causes.

248. Deaths from all other causes increased from 228,777 to 277,855. Deaths from measles are included under this head and numbered 32,418 as against 11,726 in 1916.

50—Emigration and Immigration.

(For details see the annual report on the working in the United Provinces of the Assam Labour and Emigration Act VI of 1901 *for the year ending the* 30*th of June,* 1918, *the annual report on emigration from the port of Calcutta to British and Foreign Colonies for* 1917, *and the tables under the head "Emigration," Part V—Statistics of British India.)*

Foreign emigration.

249. Only 697 emigrants were registered at the port of Calcutta for Demarara and Trinidad during 1917 as compared with 4,932 in 1916, the

decrease being due to the stoppage of recruitment from the middle of February till the end of the year. Of this number 520 or 74·60 per cent. were recruited in the United Provinces, but classified according to birth 590 or 84·64 per cent. came from the United Provinces. The percentage last year was 85·66 and 84·65 respectively. Cawnpore again supplied the greatest number followed by Allahabad, Lucknow, and Basti, but judging by birthplace Basti was first with 71, the next in order being Gonda with 50. There was an increase in the average remittances per resident Indian immigrant in respect of all the colonies except Surinam. Savings as far as could be ascertained increased in the case of the colonies of Demarara, Trinidad, and Natal and decreased in the case of the colonies of Jamaica and Fiji.

Inland emigration.

250. Recruiting under Chapter IV of the Assam Labour and Emigration Act VI of 1901 was carried on in 18 districts. 2,839 labourers including many women and children were recruited as against 3,537 in the previous year. Measures were again taken to prevent men fitted for military service from being enrolled, and from the end of March the recruiting of Gurkhas entirely ceased. Gorakhpur and Basti supplied by far the greater number of the recruits. No case of infringement of the rules was noticed and malpractices seem to have entirely died out as a result of the operation of the new rules.

Immigration.

251. No statistics are available.

51—Medical relief.

(For details see the annual report on the administration of civil hospitals for the year ending 31st December, 1917 and the tables under the head "Hospital," Part V—Statistics of British India.)

Dispensaries.

252. The year opened with 640 dispensaries and closed with 642, ten new dispensaries having been opened and eight closed. In addition to the latter eleven others had to be temporarily closed owing to the depleted strength of the sub-assistant-surgeon cadre, on account of the War demands. The number of patients treated at state-public, local fund, and private-aided dispensaries and hospitals was 5,352,318 against 5,238,626 in 1916, thus continuing the rise noted in previous years. Deducting attendance at travelling dispensaries there was an increase of 139,955 patients in the year at standing hospitals, as compared with 134,369 in the previous year. The indoor attendance which rose from 77,277 in 1915 to 80,228 in 1916 shows a still further increase to 81,364 in the year under report. At female dispensaries the indoor attendance rose from 17,476 to 17,832, but there was a slight fall in the outdoor attendance. There was a small rise in the number of deaths but the ratio of deaths per cent. of the number treated remained practically the same. There was some decrease in the number of patients treated by the 87 travelling dispensaries which is chiefly due to the fact that many travelling dispensaries had to be closed temporarily owing to the deputation of sub-assistant surgeons to military duty.

Lady doctors.

253. Lady doctors and subordinate female medical officers paid 5,845 visits as against 5,867 in 1916; of these 3,835 were medical, 871 surgical, and 1,139 midwifery cases. There was an increase of 501 in medical cases but a decrease of 615 in midwifery cases.

Financial.

254. Including the opening balance the total income of the hospitals and dispensaries was Rs. 20,18,309 as compared with Rs. 20,38,053 in 1916. Expenditure fell from Rs. 18,05,676 to Rs. 17,80,039 and the closing balance was Rs. 2,38,270 as compared with Rs. 2,67,503 at the beginning of the year. Local fund contributions fell from Rs. 9,25,402 to Rs. 9,19,185, the municipal fund contributions from Rs. 1,15,464 to Rs. 1,03,732 and the receipts from Indians from Rs. 1,39,692 to Rs. 1,29,541. On the expenditure side the cost of European medicines increased by Rs. 12,349. The invested capital at the close of the year was Rs. 16,45,170 against an opening balance of Rs. 15,91,552.

255. The number of students on the rolls of King George's Medical College at the close of the year was 133, against 137 in 1916. The results of the University examinations have been highly creditable to the staff, for 25 out of 34 students passed the first M.B., B.S. examination; all 34 passed the final M.B., B.S. group A examination and 24 out of 30 passed the final M.B., B.S. group B examination Two female students passed the final M.B., B.S. group B examination and two the final M.B., B.S. group A examination. The King Edward Sanatorium at Bhowali and the tuberculosis hospital at Lucknow continued to do good work. The total number of officers now on military duty is 252. Owing to this depletion of the staff it was not possible to bring the number of travelling dispensaries up to the sanctioned number of 94. Since the close of the year, however, the entertainment of trained and competent compounders as medical assistants has been sanctioned and the temporary establishment of 23 more travelling dispensaries to combat plague thus rendered possible. General.

52—Sanitation.

(*For details see the annual report of the Sanitary Commissioner for the year ending the* 31*st December*, 1917, *the annual report of the Sanitary Engineer for the year ending* 31*st March*, 1918, *and the tables under the head "Area, population, and public health," Part* V—*Statistics of British India.*)

256. The total expenditure on works of a sanitary nature under the Sanitary Engineer during the year amounted to 16·18 lakhs as compared with 22·97 lakhs in the previous year. Of this sum 8·03 lakhs were spent on original sanitary works and 8·14 lakhs on the maintenance and repairs of open water-works. Nearly half of the capital outlay of 4·88 lakhs on water-works was incurred in Agra; Allahabad was responsible for Rs. 89,344, Lucknow for Rs. 68,617 Muttra for Rs. 46,010, and Fyzabad for Rs. 40,107. The total expenditure on drainage works was 2·97 lakhs, of which Lucknow accounted for Rs. 97,666. The municipalities mainly responsible for the expenditure on maintenance of water-works were Agra Rs. 97,255, Allahabad Rs. 1,18,989, Benares Rs. 1,60,054, Cawnpore Rs. 1,64,016, and Lucknow Rs. 1,47,030. Tube wells continued to work satisfactorily and others were completed, but in some cases little progress towards the installation of machinery could be made. Completion of the works at Fyzabad and Aligarh has been postponed till the end of the War. A scheme for the supply of water to the pilgrims at the Allahabad Kumb Magh Mela was prepared and carried out. Municipalities.

257. The sanitary arrangements at the Allahabad Magh Mela, the Hardwar Dikhauti Fair, the Ballia Dadri Fair, the Misrikh Paikarma Fair in the Sitapur district, and the Ramnaumi and Sawan Jhula Fairs at Ajodhya were supervised by the Deputy Sanitary Commissioners. There were a few cases of cholera, two of small-pox, and one of plague, but at the majority of the fairs, including the Magh Mela, no epidemic disease appeared. Fairs.

258. The Sanitary Board held seven meetings during the year. The total amount at the disposal of the board for expenditure on sanitary works aggregated Rs. 6,17,577. Rs. 3,82,186 were allotted by the board and various grants were sanctioned by Government. Projects aggregating Rs. 12,80,372 were administratively sanctioned or approved and proposals for several additional works were approved by the board and entered on the programme of sanitary works for preparation of estimates. Sanitary Board.

259. Sanitary classes were held in the winter of 1916-17. 19 out of 30 candidates came out successful in the first year's course and 19 out of 25 in the second year's course. Owing to the absence of officers on military duty and the consequent difficulty of providing qualified lecturers, the sanitary inspectors' class at King George's Medical College, Lucknow, has for the present been discontinued. General.

53—Vaccination.

(*For details see the annual report on vaccination for the year ending the* 31*st March,* 1918 *and the tables under the head "Vaccination," Part* V—*Statistics of British India.*)

Establishment and charges.

260. The number of vaccinators remained practically the same, being 915 as against 916 in 1916, and the number of assistant superintendents remained stationary at 49. The total expenditure increased by Rs. 2,735 to Rs. 2,46,577.

Vaccinations.

261. There was a satisfactory increase of 27,327 in the number of persons vaccinated, the total number being 1,670,446. Primary vaccinations and re-vaccinations also rose from 1,543,907 and 108,922 respectively in 1916-17 to 1,572,818 and 112,335. Secondary vaccinations rose from 9,710 to 14,707. The percentage of successful primary vaccinations and re-vaccinations was 97·40 and 72·50 as compared with 97·75 and 74·07 in the previous year. The number of persons successfully vaccinated was 33·95 as against 33·44. Garhwal, as usual, heads the list of persons successfully vaccinated with 65·66 per 1,000 of the population, and it is closely followed by Almora with 65·36, after which come Hamirpur with 47, Naini Tal with 45·90, Jhansi with 43·83, and Jalaun with 40 41. The least protected districts were Bara Banki with 23·93, Rae Bareli with 25 55, Partabgarh with 25·92, and Allahabad with 26·32. There was a slight decline in the percentage of successful vaccinations in proportion to births and according to age which is partly explained by an increased number of deaths among infants. The average cost of each successful vaccination was again two annas.

Inspections.

262. Despite other pre-occupations the Deputy Sanitary Commissioners and District Superintendents of Vaccination increased their number of inspections by 5,658 from 252,200 to 257,858. The percentage of cases found successful rose from 97·23 to 97·34 for primary vaccinations and from 65·50 to 65·55 for re-vaccinations. Assistant Superintendents and other inspecting officers inspected 698,952 vaccinations as compared with 691,165 in the previous year and the percentage of cases found successful was 96·42 for primary vaccinations and 65·38 for re-vaccinations as against 96·87 and 62 56 in 1916-17.

Lymph.

263. The Provincial Bovine Lymph Dépôt at Patwa Dangar in the Naini Tal district issued 86,658 grammes of lymph as against 82,960 in the previous year. There was a slight increase in expenditure on the dépôt from Rs. 21,348 to Rs. 21,910, while the sale-proceeds of lymph amounted to Rs. 30,002 against Rs. 28,843 in the previous year.

Chapter VII.—INSTRUCTION.

54—General system of education.

(*See page* 81 *of the report for the year* 1911-12.)

55—Education.

(*For details see the quinquennial report on public instruction for the period ending* 31*st March,* 1918 *and the tables under the head "Education," Part VII—Statistics of British India.*)

General.

264. There is little to note this year under this head. The conditions of the previous year continued. The War hampered progress in this as in other departments by curtailing the supply of materials and little new construction was attempted. Several members of the Educational Service were still away on military duty. There was some increase in the number of scholars and schools, but this was entirely confined to public institutions. The decline of the private institution, in view of its unsatisfactory character, is perhaps not altogether to be regretted. There are encouraging signs of a growing appreciation of the value of physical training and of the educational

value of games. Moral and religious instruction continues to be confined to denominational schools.

Number of institutions and scholars.

265. The number of public institutions rose by 373, while that of private institutions diminished by 126, the total net increase thus being 247. The total number of scholars rose from 894,886 to 918,258, there being an increase of 26,513 in public institutions and a decrease of 3,141 in private institutions. The net increase is considerably less than in 1916-17, when it was 53,552, but more than in 1915-16, when it was only 8,880.

Expenditure.

266. Expenditure on education from all sources increased from Rs. 1,47,45,922 to Rs. 1,52,89,179. Of this the contribution from Provincial revenues shows an increase of Rs. 8,55,850. The expenditure from district funds has diminished by nearly 6 lakhs, the decrease being generally due to the economy necessitated by the War.

University.

267. The University lost three of its most distinguished members during the year by the death of Dr. Hill, the Hon'ble Sir Sunder Lal, and Dr. Venis. In History the outstanding feature of the year was the growth in the department of post-graduate studies for the M. A. History degree. Some interesting and important new historical material was discovered during the year. In the department of economics the research work undertaken was mainly in the direction of rural economics. Of the 5,126 Matriculation candidates only 1,066 passed as compared with 1,437 out of 5,311 candidates last year. In the Intermediate examination 1,137 passed out of 2,344 as compared with 1,051 out of 2,403 last year. The results of the other chief University examinations were as follows:—For the B. A. 411 passed out of 1,316, for the previous LL.B. 338 out of 633, for the final LL.B. 278 out of 567, and for the B.Sc. 78 out of 205. Generally there was a slight decrease in both candidates and passes. The total income of the University was Rs. 3,27,329 and the total expenditure Rs. 3,08,540, of which Rs. 13,500 was spent on the University Law College.

Collegiate education.

268. The total number of students receiving collegiate education rose from 4,815 to 5,064. The increase is fairly evenly distributed and pressure on the accommodation and the teaching staff continues to increase. The popularity of college hostels is steadily growing. Practically every institution has its hostels full and hundreds of applications for admission have had to be rejected on account of the inadequacy of the existing space to meet the growing demand, notwithstanding the fact that some of the existing hostels afford very poor accommodation. Most colleges report the absence of some of their European Professors on military duty and this has undoubtedly increased the burdens of those who have been forced to stay behind. Owing to a change in the system of classification only one institution is now shown as an Oriental college. Oriental schools teaching Arabic and Persian number 344 as against 426 last year. The number of Sanskrit schools has decreased from 500 to 475. The number of candidates who offered themselves during the year for the various Sanskrit examinations was the largest on record. No less than 3,603 appeared, of whom 1,739 passed. Reports were received from the Special Inspectors of Sanskrit Pathshalas and Arabic Madrassas appointed to consider what measures could be taken to preserve and develop indigenous schools of Sanskrit and Arabic learning, and as a result the Director of Public Instruction is of opinion that what is needed is a stabilisation of the finances of the Maktabs and Madrassas by means of grants-in-aid and the institution of a graduated system of departmental examination to secure a proper standard. In the University school of Law the number of students rose from 407 to 458 and the total enrolment in Law schools and classes from 732 to 786. There were 132 students on the roll of the Lucknow Medical College as compared with 136 last year. Of these, 124 were Hindus and 7 Muhammadans. There were also two women students. 16 out of 17 were successful at the Final M.B.B.S. examination. Expenditure on collegiate education rose from Rs. 11,27,546 to Rs. 11,60,971. The percentage met from fees increased from 33 to 35. The cost per scholar, however, diminished from Rs. 249 to Rs. 236, this being probably due to the absence of members of the senior staff on military service.

Secondary education.

269. The number of secondary public schools for Indian boys (high schools and middle schools, English and vernacular) increased from 631 to 650, and the number of scholars from 86,446 to 91,177. The number of high schools increased by 8, and Anglo-Vernacular middle schools by 10; two new vernacular middle schools were opened during the year. Expenditure increased by Rs. 1,50,995, the increase being due to the growth in the number of institutions and the improvement in the pay of teachers. Expenditure from fees rose from Rs. 11,55,655 to Rs. 12,37,104, which is 49·3 per cent. of the total expenditure on Anglo-Vernacular schools. The average cost of education in a Government school was Rs. 52·6 per boy and Rs. 42·4 in aided schools. The expenditure in vernacular middle schools increased from Rs. 5,04,582 to Rs. 5,36,496. 3,506 candidates appeared for the School Leaving Certificate examination as against 2,655 last year; but the number of passes fell from 1,288 to 993, a drop in the percentage from 49 to 28. The weakness of candidates was not confined to any particular subject, and the poor results may be in part attributable to the heavy failures in schools that have recently obtained recognition and which have not yet realized sufficiently the requirements of the examination. There was a decrease of 299 in the number of candidates who presented themselves for the Matriculation examination, and of the total of 2,091 only 475 passed. The decline is not surprising when it is considered that candidates for the examination consist largely of former failures, many of whom appear privately, or of pupils sent up by the weaker schools. There can be little doubt of the growing popularity of the school leaving certificate and practically all the better aided schools have obtained departmental recognition for this examination. In the vernacular final examination 8,601 candidates appeared, of whom 6,377 passed—a percentage of 74. The figures show a decline of 5,241 candidates in 1916 and this large drop has been attributed by some to the unpopularity of the longer course. Divisional inspectors and chairmen of district boards are generally of opinion that the extra year's training is likely to affect adversely the enrolment in vernacular middle schools. Judging from the reports of Divisional Inspectors there is considerable room for improvement in the quality of teachers. The educational profession with its meagre salaries and poor prospects fails to attract the best men, and as a result the moral tone of the schools is not as high as it should be. Conceit and a belief in their own infallibility, resentment of criticism, and a tendency to rest solely on laurels won in the past are among the charges levelled against the class of trained teachers. The high prices of building materials caused a curtailment in the construction of new buildings and improvements have had to be postponed. Good and sufficient hostel accommodation continues to be one of the first needs of the moment. There is a general consensus of opinion that high school committees are either useless or positively harmful.

Primary education.

270. Primary schools show an increase of 322 and their enrolment in increase of 19,338, or a little less than three per cent. But for the severe epidemics of plague and relapsing fever that prevailed practically throughout the provinces the increase would probably have been more. Reports on aided and unaided schools both continue to be unfavourable. Their financial instability and consequent tuitional inefficiency make progress almost impossible, and with the expansion of the educational activities of district boards their numbers are bound to diminish. The half-time system does not appear to have made any new converts and Allahabad is still the only district where it is in favour, and even there officials are not very enthusiastic. The education of the depressed classes makes little headway. There are at present, to quote one Divisional Inspector, "no signs of awakening sympathy or softening prejudice," and the classes themselves show little interest. While the proportion of teachers who have passed through a school or training class is increasing, there is still much leeway to make up. In boards' schools nearly half the teachers are untrained men and the proportion of unqualified teachers in aided schools is considerably higher. The total expenditure rose from Rs. 26,03,088 to Rs. 29,25,766. The increase is due to the opening of new schools, the improvement of the salaries of teachers, and conversion of aided into boards' schools. The increase was

entirely on schools managed by district or municipal boards, the expenditure on aided schools declining from Rs. 2,40,432 to Rs. 2,21,327. This is due to the withdrawal of aid from inefficient schools and the transfer of some aided schools to district board control.

Training and supply of teachers.

271. Fifty out of 58 candidates passed the examination this year at the Allahabad Training College. The number in the Lucknow Training College remained as last year, 60, one of whom left for military duty during the session. 34 presented themselves for the Departmental Teachers' Certificate examination and 32 passed. The number of Muhammadan students undergoing training at the Allahabad College was the same as last year, namely, 7. Of 16 candidates from Naini Tal and Mussooree 15 obtained the certificate for training in European schools. The establishment of a new Normal School at Fyzabad has raised the number of these institutions to seven, and the number of students has increased from 517 to 539. The post of the Special Inspector of Normal Schools has been abolished and their supervision is now a part of the duties of the Divisional Inspectors concerned. The number of training classes dropped from 267 to 260, but the number of students only fell from 1,807 to 1,803. The number of training institutions for women rose from 22 to 24, but the number of students fell from 186 to 176. Institutions preparing for the vernacular Teachers' Certificate examination increased by one owing to the recognition of a new class in Almora.

Technical education.

272. The number of students at the Gorakhpur Technical School, increased from 83 to 154. The hostel, which is capable of accommodating 48 students is now completed, and is fully occupied. 8 students passed out of the school during the year, and were apprenticed. The night classes were attended by 19 Europeans and 60 Indians.

The enrolment in the Technical School, Lucknow, increased from 131 to 147·12 students completed their training in the Mechanical section and 9 in the Automobile Driver class: 9 were trained as oil-engine drivers and 4 completed their training in the Artizan section. There were 25 boarders in the hostel. The enrolment of the night classes increased from 75 to 83.

One hundred and thirty-six students were on the rolls of the School of Arts and Crafts, Lucknow. A committee of enquiry which was appointed to examine the aims of the school, the methods employed, and the results obtained reported favourably, and the school which had hitherto been regarded as an experiment was made by Government Resolution a permanent institution. Various changes in the staff and curriculum are being effected.

The designation of the Bareilly Carpentry School has been changed to the "Government Central Woodworking Institute." The number of students increased by 27 to 86. The present accommodation for bench and machine work is very limited and projects for new premises, machinery, and increased equipment are under consideration. The night classes for artizans show an average attendance of 35, and keen interest is said to be taken in them by city carpenters. The extension of the activities of the Forest Department has emphasized the need for an institution where the research and experimental work, which must precede the establishment of new industries can be carried on. The Bareilly Institute is considered suitable for this purpose, and it has therefore been decided to transfer the institute to the Forest Department from 1st October, 1918.

The number of students at the Government Central Weaving Institute, Benares, increased from 76 to 87. Examination results were good and most of the students who passed out of the Institute have obtained employment. Although the Institute does not appear to be appreciated by the Julahas of Benares, it is getting more into touch with the weaving community in other parts of the province, through the medium of the Central Supply Stores, and the peripatetic Weaving schools. The lack of a boarding-house is severely felt, and proposals are being made to provide one.

The District Weaving schools at Moradabad, Muzaffarnagar, and Bara Banki continued to make satisfactory progress, and the attendance at the Shahjahanpur school is increasing. At Almora the weaving section has

had to be closed, but the knitting section appears to be doing well. The two special schools for hosiery training are working well, but progress has been hampered by difficulties in obtaining accessories.

Education of special classes.

The equipment of the Government School for Dyeing and Printing at Cawnpore was enlarged. Thirty-eight boys attended the Leather Working School there. Up to this time, 12 boys have passed out of the School, the majority of whom have secured appointments in the local factories. There are 11 Mission and private Industrial schools in the province. The working of these schools can be improved, and steps are being taken to make the training given in them more useful.

Female education.

273. The number of girls' schools rose from 1,531 to 1,630 and the number of scholars reading in them from 50,131 to 52,079. In Anglo-Vernacular schools there was an increase of 174 from 3,818 to 3,992, and in high schools of 326 from 808 to 1,134, but the middle schools show a decrease from 3,010 to 2,858. The number of Hindus has increased by 9 per cent. and that of Muhammadans by 7 per cent. The number of Christians has remained practically stationary, but their proportion to the total population of school-going age of their own faith is considerably higher than that of either Hindus or Muhammadans. Four high schools, namely, the Isabella Thoburn, the A. P. School, Dehra Dun, the C. M. S. School, Agra, and the Mary Wanamaker Girls' School, Allahabad, have been recognized for the School Leaving Certificate examination. Radical improvements were introduced in the organisation of the work of the Crosthwaite Girls' School, Allahabad. Vernacular middle schools show an increase of two and their enrolment rose from 4,786 to 5,119. Of the total of 52 schools 26 are model schools with a total enrolment of 2,454. The number of primary schools rose from 1,083 to 1,114 and the number of pupils from 36,426 to 37,798. One of the chief impediments in the progress of female education is still the dearth of suitable and qualified teachers. There are 1,575 teachers for 1,114 schools. The proportion of teachers to the total number of scholars is not inadequate, but the distribution is necessarily uneven and the qualifications of the teachers are in many cases poor.

274. The total number of institutions for Anglo-Indians remained the same as last year, while the total enrolment only rose by 87. There is a considerable diminution of numbers in plains schools and a corresponding increase in numbers in hill schools which is attributed to a general improvement in the financial circumstances of Anglo-Indian parents in consequence of the war. The total expenditure on European education rose by Rs. 95,585 to Rs. 14,28,847. The fee income rose by Rs. 98,297 and the proportion of expenditure met from this source was 4·63 per cent. of the whole, being 3·9 per cent. more than in the previous year. The Cambridge Local Examinations were not held this year owing to non-receipt of the examination papers "through enemy action at sea," and the only examination held was the training class examination for women teachers. To meet the situation thus created the Allahabad University passed an emergency regulation admitting to the University candidates for the senior local examination of December, 1917, who were certified by the Inspector of European Schools as likely to have passed the test. In all 14 such certificates were issued; and on the recommendation of the Inspector five candidates for the senior examination of last year were allowed to compete for the Roorkee Entrance examination. For the purpose of the award of scholarships school tests were substituted for the various local examinations. The number of teachers increased by no less than 29 and an improvement in the quality is also reported. The enrolment of the Colvin Taluqdars' School rose from 60 to 64, of whom four left during the year. The number of Hindu scholars increased by 2·8 per cent. and that of Muhammadans by 3 per cent. Muhammadans seem to be well holding their own and in some districts are even progressing more rapidly than the Hindus. Proposals with the object of safeguarding the interests of Muhammadan teachers and promoting Muhammadan education made by the Provincial Educational Conference and sanctioned by Government were given effect to during the year. Without greater effort, however, on the part of the maktab committees the special scheme for the extension of vernacular education among Muhammadans cannot make rapid

headway. Special building grants were made to the Meston Islamia School, Budaun, and the Islamia School, Bareilly.

56—Literature and the Press.

(See the tables under the head "Printing Presses and Publications," Part VII—Statistics of British India.)

Literary publications.

275. A season of economic stress and high prices seems to have exercised little restraining influence on the activities of publishers and authors, for the number of publications during the year increased by 13, thus establishing a new record. The increase is due to works written in Urdu which represent a rise of 13 per cent. as compared with last year and more than balance the slight decline in Hindi publications. The most noteworthy rise is in the number of political works. History and biography and fiction show an opposite tendency, while the output under poetry, religion, science, and philosophy has remained practically stationary. There is an increase of 60 in the number of political works, but this hardly constitutes a true index of the actual increase, some works classified as history, poetry or drama displaying a distinct political colouring.

Social reform still continues to engage the attention of many writers and to cover the whole field of Indian life. A few champions of the purdah system are still to be found, but the general trend is all the other way. Forty-two publications are devoted to caste, seven of which deal with the question of its origin, and the rest either embody accounts of social activities among certain groups or put forward new claims. The historical efforts are unhistorical in both outlook and treatment and the wrangles for precedence only serve to illustrate the extraordinary fascination that the caste system still exerts. Political literature is rather destructive than constructive. Part of it consists as usual of reprints of the speeches of prominent politicians. What is new bears the impress of the Home Rule movement.

Religious works are as usual remarkable for their quantity rather than their quality. They consist mainly of reprints of well-known texts, edited with new but by no means illuminating commentaries, translations, rhapsodies, and polemics. Among the few exceptions may be mentioned the "Dravya Sangraha," which inaugurates a new series of the Sacred Books of the Jains and should be of value to scholars interested in Jain antiquities. Of the total of 401 religious publications the Muhammadans have contributed 134, the polemical portions of which deals mainly with inter-Islamic differences. Generally speaking, there was some improvement in the tone of these productions, but an unscientific spirit and a partisan temper still mar the work of scholars whose erudition would otherwise be entitled to respect.

History and biography show a marked decline in quality and numbers and the value of works of this description is not enhanced by the constant attempt to discover matter to extol the past and decry the present. A history of Shahabad breaks new ground and may signify a growing interest in the much-neglected theme of local antiquities, but it would be premature to generalize on the basis of one solitary effort. Historical research as a means to the discovery and dissemination of historical truth has as yet found few enthusiasts among Indians.

Fiction is equally disappointing. The death of Deoki Nandan Khattri has left a real gap in the ranks of romancists and there is little in the 158 productions under this head that deserves mention. Poetry is mostly the work of indifferent rhymesters upon commonplace themes. Translations are numerous. Shakespeare, Moliere, Brieux, and Maeterlinck among dramatists, Angell among socialist-philosophers and Reynolds have appeared in oriental garb, while the translations of the Ramayana have been increased by two Nepali versions. The Rev. Ahmad Shah has produced a creditable translation of Kabir's Bijak.

Original scientific, legal, and philosophic works are few, but there is still a good output of keys and aids to students and practitioners, though it is smaller than last year. Medicine contains its usual quota of quackery.

War publications reflect a spirit of loyalty, but their numbers are small and they display no clear perception of the great issues at stake or realization of its horrors.

Indian press.

276. The total number of newspapers and periodicals which had declined by ten in 1916 rose by five from 347 to 352. Of these, 61 were in English, 134 in Hindi, and 131 in Urdu as compared with 64, 127, and 131 respectively last year. There was thus a decline in the number of English and an increase in the number of Hindi papers. In no case did the circulation exceed 6,000. Allahabad contributed 58, Lucknow 56, Benares 31, Agra 30, Meerut 25, Cawnpore 24, Muttra 14, Aligarh 12, Bijnor 12, and Moradabad 11. Twenty-one publications ceased to appear, the reason in most cases being dearness of materials or lack of support. Of these five had only been started during the year.

Tone and policy.

277. There were no presses which closed or which did not open owing to the demand of security. Only one paper, the *New Era*, ceased publication for this reason. Formal warnings were conveyed to five persons connected with presses or newspapers by District Magistrates, and to nine by the Local Government.

There was a marked development of nationalist tendencies, especially among Hindu papers, and it became obvious that only advanced journals could hope for an increase in their circulation. There was considerable opposition from the conservative Muslim papers to the Congress Muslim League entente, but the chief importance of the year politically lay in the split between the advanced and moderate sections of the press which may be dated from the announcement in the House of Commons of the goal of British policy as regards India and of the impending visit of the Secretary of state. Up to that point the *Leader*, which was the most important Congress organ in the province, had strongly supported the progressive party and had taken a leading part in the agitation for the release of Mrs. Besant. It has since expressed general disapproval of the policy and methods of the advanced party. Those journals on the other hand which remain extremist pronounced Mr. Gokahle's scheme of reforms as out of date, criticized the Viceroy's deprecation of "catastrophic changes," and continued to insist throughout the year that the Congress League scheme was the irreducible minimum.

The report of the Mesopotamia Commission and its criticisms of the Government of India were eagerly welcomed. There was a continual stream of criticism directed against the Arms Act, the Press Act, and the Defence of India Act, and of agitation against the internment of political prisoners and other detenus. India's educational and industrial backwardness was attributed to the illiberal policy of officials and Japan was frequently held up as an example, though admiration for her as a successful Asiatic state was tempered by fear of her as a commercial rival. Some of the bitterest attacks of the year, however, were made not on the bureaucracy, but on the Anglo-Indian merchants and journalists to whose anti-Indian activities all the unrest and racial feeling in India was attributed, and the political work of the non-official Europeans and of the Indo-British Association under Lord Sydenham was watched with grave concern. Great prominence was given to cases of assault by Europeans on Indians. The Majority Report of the Public Services Commissions was almost unanimously condemned, but Mr. Justice Abdul Rahim's Minority Report was much in favour and was widely used to support the claims of Indians to higher appointments. The speech in which Mr. Chamberlain defended the cotton import duties against the opposition of the Lancashire mill-owners was greatly appreciated, but there was some mistrust of him in other respects, and his resignation and the appointment of Mr. Montagu were welcomed. Generally there was a tendency to assume that India was being exploited in the interests of Europeans and the War gift of a hundred million pounds to the British Government was criticised mainly on the ground that India is too poor to make any direct financial contribution to the War.

The Bakr-Id disturbances in Bihar were attributed by the Hindu press to the inefficiency of officials. This explanation, however, did not satisfy

Muhammadans and both sections of the Muslim press, advanced and conservative, bitterly denounced the rioters. Even the advanced Muslim nationlists began to doubt if the Congress-League scheme adequately safeguarded the interests of th ir community.

Articles on Foreign politics give the impression that little interest was felt in them except in so far as they had any bearing on India or Indian politics or might be used in support of national or religious claims. Little real interest in comparison with these was taken in the War. The news of the Russian revolution was received with joy, and the sympathetic attitude in Europe and America towards what was regarded as a national movement against autocracy was considered to be most favourable to India in her constitutional struggle. The subsequent troubles of regenerated Russia were regarded somewhat optimistically. The entry of America into the War was welcomed and President Wilson's speeches on the War aims of the Allies were warmly applauded. The announcement that Constantinople would be given to Russia was criticized adversely and the subsequent collapse of Russia was regarded with satisfaction by the more advanced Muslim journals which pointed out the grave mistake made by Britain in preferring to have Russia rather than Turkey as an ally. The capture of Bagdad and Jerusalem did not cause much enthusiasm, though the discussion on the suggestion that Jerusalem should be handed over to the Jews led to a protest and Government were urged to remember their promise to respect the Holy places of Islam. Restrictions on the Haj pilgrimage were considered disappointing in view of the announcement made at the time of the Sharif's revolt that the pilgrims would have every facility and little appreciation was shown of the difficulties caused by the scarcity of shipping.

57—Literary Societies.

(See page 92 of the report for the year 1911-12.)

58—Arts and Sciences.

(For details see the annual report of the Lucknow Provincial Museum for the year ending 31st March, 1918.)

278. The all-round progress which has been marked since the re-organization of the Lucknow Museum in the present buildings continued. Many interesting exhibits were added to the existing collection, the gains being shared alike by all the important sections. Altogether the acquisitions numbered 464, of which 180 were presents. Of the total 180 are assigned to Archaeology, 172 to Numismatics, 15 to Natural History, 17 to the Picture Gallery, and 80 to Ethnography. The antiquities unearthed at Sankisa last year have been arranged in two cases. The class in archaeology was held regularly from August to November. Visitors during the year totalled 133,915, an increase of 10,782 on the previous year. Of this number 1,539 were pardanashin ladies as compared with 752 last year. Expenditure fell from Rs. 17,206 to Rs. 14,877 and receipts from Rs. 422 to Rs. 258.

CHAPTER VIII.—ARCHAEOLOGY.

59—Archaeology.

(For details see the annual report of the Superintendent, Muhammadan and British Monuments, Northern Circle, and of the Superintendent, Hindu and Buddhist Monuments, Northern Circle, for the year ending 31st March, 1918.)

Conservation.

279. The amount spent on the conservation of Muhammadan and British monuments in the United Provinces was Rs. 38,048 as against Rs. 42,215 in the previous year, Rs. 5,720 being spent on special and Rs. 32,328 on annual repairs. The Preservation of Ancient Monuments Act was applied to the following:—The bridge over the Beta river and the temple attached to it in Tikaitganj, Lucknow; a small mosque at Sikandara, Agra; the Fort at Sakit, Etah; the Jama Masjid at Erich, Jhansi; the

Dekhani Darwaza in muhalla Tajganj, Agra; Hammam at Fatehpur Sikri, and some tombs near the Sitla temple in the Agra district.

Exploration.

The total expenditure on Hindu and Buddhist monuments in the United Provinces amounted to Rs. 5,488, including Rs. 2,082 on annual repairs. Special repairs were carried out on the Deogarh and Sarnath monuments. Of thirty-five monuments in the Jhansi district proposed last year for protection, thirty-four have already been declared protected.

280. A large number of fragmentary sculptures, earthen vessels, terra-cotta figures, and a few clay sealings were found during the clearance works carried out at the Buddhist ruins at Sarnath. Excavations were continued at Deogarh and Muttra with interesting results, and various monuments at Mahoba were inspected and proposals for their conservation submitted.

CHAPTER IX.—MISCELLANEOUS.

60—Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction.

(See page 94 of the report for 1911-12.)

61—Ecclesiastical.

281. The year was uneventful.

62—Stationery.

Stationery.

282. The total value of the stationery stores supplied to these provinces during 1917-18 was Rs. 4,98,659 as against Rs. 4,80,319 in the previous year and Rs. 5,16,525 in 1915-16. The value of stationery issued to presses was Rs. 3,71,454 or Rs. 20,215 more than in the previous year, and that of stationery issued to offices other than presses Rs. 1,27,205 a decrease of Rs. 1,875. Despite a rise in the prices of stationery articles of all descriptions there has been a steady decline in the value of supplies to offices other than presses since 1915-16. The savings under the Public Works department and the Police deserve special mention. The increased expenditure occurred principally under the heads of Land Revenue, Law and Justice and Stationery and Printing.

63—General—Miscellaneous.

Government Press.

283. The receipts of the Government Press rose from Rs. 1,45,303 to Rs. 1,58,013, while expenditure fell from Rs. 3,64,356 to Rs. 2,98,397. The printing bill for the year fell from Rs. 6,29,253 to Rs. 5,60,919, a considerable reduction thus being effected, notwithstanding a further advance in the price of paper and raw material. The greatest saving is exhibited by the Revenue, General Administration, and Police departments. Increases under other departments are accounted for by the increased cost of paper rather than by increased quantities. A large increase of Rs. 10,123 under Miscellaneous is due to Government departments sending less work to private presses. Disbursements to private presses fell from Rs. 13,569 to Rs. 8,366. The number of publications received during the year under the Copyright Act was 2,338, of which 1,689 were original works and 649 reprints. The principal publishing centres were Benares 574, Allahabad 509, Lucknow 492, Moradabad 111, Meerut 102, Cawnpore 97, Aligarh 96, and Agra 87. Considerable saving was effected by the calling in from districts of covers of old registers, file covers, etc. Demands for forms were considerably reduced and a number of forms were reduced in size and paper of a quality inferior to that previously used was very extensively employed, the saving effected by the use of this paper being roughly Rs. 30,000.

REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION

OF THE

UNITED PROVINCES OF AGRA AND OUDH,

1918-1919.

ALLAHABAD:

PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS, UNITED PROVINCES,

1920.

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REPORT

ON THE

Administration of the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh.

1918-19.

PART I.

GENERAL SUMMARY

General conditions.

1. The history of the United Provinces in the year 1918-19 was influenced in every department of the administration by three factors, two of which were of world-wide extent, while the third, though more local, affected nearly the whole of India. For the first half of the year the war continued with even greater intensity than before, and its various effects on all spheres of activity were felt to a corresponding degree; with the cessation of hostilities in November what may be described generally as war work for the most part came to an end and it was possible for the civil administration to redirect its activities into more normal channels. It was at the same time handicapped in doing so by the fact that war conditions still very largely prevailed. The effects of the war continued, in fact, to be felt with full force by every department till the end of the year. The second factor of world-wide interest was the influenza epidemic of the autumn which ravaged the provinces in October and November and took a toll of over two million lives or four per cent. of the total population. Its effect was likewise felt in varying degrees and ways in every branch of the administration. The failure of the monsoon, which was the third factor alluded to, was more general than in 1913 and the drought extended to the greater part of India, with the result that these provinces had to depend on their own resources to a much greater extent than on previous occasions of scarcity. Handicapped as they were by war, pestilence and the threat of famine it is remarkable that they should have weathered the storm so successfully as the following pages indicate.

Weather and crops.

2. The course of the monsoon in 1918 established agricultural conditions not dissimilar to those of the scarcity of 1913-14. In June the rain was in excess of the normal, except in the Doab. In July the defect was everywhere pronounced, while well-distributed rain in the second half of August was more than counterbalanced by the disappearance of the monsoon in the second week of September and the subsequent prevalence of hot winds. The *kharif* outturn was naturally very poor and in the case of nearly all crops worse than in 1913. The only exception was the early rice which was a fair crop in some divisions. Mandua, maize and cotton yielded much poorer crops than in 1913: late rice and *bajra* slightly worse, while the *juar* and til outturn was much the same.

The rainfall in the cold weather was little more satisfactory; November was rainless; December showers were light, and although there was some good rain in January, it was insufficient to do much good to the unirrigated

crops. The outturn, however, was much better than the *kharif*. Wheat, barley, gram and linseed were all better crops than in 1914, and the yield would probably not have fallen short of the normal but for delay in sowing. The influenza epidemic and the scanty rain in the earlier part of the cold weather were responsible for a great decline in the *rabi* area which affected all crops to a more or less extent.

The 1919 monsoon was rather late in arriving, especially in the western districts, where it did not penetrate till the second week in July. From then it continued steadily until the middle of September. Its distribution, however, was not altogether favourable for the crop system of the provinces. In Bundelkhand sowings both in July and August were greatly interfered with by excessive rain; the cotton growing districts in Rohilkhand and the Doab also received too much, while the fall was somewhat deficient in the submontane or rice growing districts. On the whole, however, the monsoon was satisfactory, and except in Bundelkhand the *kharif* outturn generally did not fall far short of normal. Good rain fell again early in October over the greater part of the provinces and was of great value in preparing the land for the *rabi*.

Prices. 3. Prices were already high in the spring of 1918; they rose slightly in the summer; and in September when it became apparent that the *kharif* would be a failure they jumped upward rapidly. From that month until the following March there were no marked variations. When the *rabi* crop of 1919 came on the market there was a drop in the prices of wheat and barley, but other grains were unaffected. The prices of all food grains rose again in May and June as the monsoon held off, but eased somewhat in July and August. There was a slight but general fall in September with the harvesting of the *kharif* and since then prices have been mostly stationary, with a tendency to rise in the case of *rabi* grains owing to requirements for seed. The most remarkable feature of the period was the unprecedented height attained by the prices of cheaper food grains, due mainly to the large demand from other provinces. Thus in June, 1918, gram and *juar* sold in the Cawnpore market at 11 and 8·25 seers respectively to the rupee, while in June of the following year they sold at 5·50 and 4·62 seers. Wheat stood at 8 seers in June, 1918, and at 5·25 seers in June, 1919. The widespread nature of the drought, together with the large exports of the last few years for war purposes, necessitated the establishment of control over distribution, and the fact that prices have not risen appreciably since the autumn of 1918 may be safely attributed to the measures taken to control exports and imports.

Relief measures. 4. The position when the monsoon failed was complicated by the terrible ravages of the influenza epidemic which carried off a large number of able-bodied labourers and left many dependants for support. The demand for labour was strong and there were none of the usual premonitory symptoms of famine. There was at the same time a general feeling of distress and it was therefore decided that the policy to be followed was one of liberal takavi advances and suspensions and remissions of revenue combined with gratuitous relief to the helpless poor. This policy proved highly successful. Although scarcity had to be declared or gratuitous relief distributed in a larger number of districts than in 1914, distress was everywhere extremely local and except in one district nowhere acute. The one exception was

Etawah, and even here both the area and the population affected were comparatively small. The situation was temporarily eased by the harvesting of the *rabi*, but some extension of relief was found necessary in the summer. With the harvesting of the *kharif* all necessity for relief came to an end. A maximum number of persons on relief of less than 40,000 and a direct expenditure of some 18 lakhs, of which more than half is accounted for by forest fodder operations, show that no serious comparison with previous years of drought is possible. The good harvests of the last few years and the high prices obtained for his crops had left the peasant so prosperous that one bad season had little effect on him. It was rather the poorer population of the towns with fixed incomes, who could benefit neither by the rise in prices nor by the rise in wages on whom the burden chiefly fell. These were relieved as far as possible out of a grant by the Indian People's Famine Trust or from local charitable relief funds.

Agriculture.

5. The main feature of the year from the point of view of agricultural science was the establishment of a Board of Agriculture, which includes representatives of the leading landlord associations and Chambers of Commerce, and heads of departments dealing with subjects allied to agriculture, such as Irrigation, Forestry and Co-operation. Its functions are to act as advisor to Government and the Director of Agriculture in matters connected with the development of agriculture in the provinces. The season was unfavourable to research and in other respects also the year was necessarily one of preparation rather than achievement, shortage of staff and the difficulty of obtaining machinery being still acutely felt. The policy of opening a demonstration farm in each district is being steadily pursued. Four such farms were opened during the year and the number will be increased as rapidly as funds permit and the necessary supervising staff can be obtained. The College at Cawnpore is still short-handed and it has not yet been found possible to obtain a Professor of Agriculture. Extensions to the College are under contemplation and an Agricultural School at Bulandshahr will be opened shortly. A large increase in the higher posts in the department is urgently required and steps are being taken in this direction.

Trade and Industry.

6. Trade was considerably affected from the autumn of 1918 by the control instituted by Government over the distribution of foodstuffs and the movements of all rail-borne traffic. Exports, especially of wheat, had been heavy at the beginning of the year, but afterwards they dropped considerably and the total exports for the year decreased by over 50 lakhs of maunds An increase in the total volume of rail-borne traffic is due entirely to larger imports of grain and salt. Imports of Burma rice, gram, pulse and oilseeds in particular showed large increases over the figures of the previous year. Notwithstanding the decline in the volume of exports their value rose by Rs. 795 lakhs and the total volume of rail-borne trade by Rs. 2,162 lakhs.

There was a decline in trade with Tibet both as regards imports and exports, which is attributed to the epidemics of cholera and influenza from which neither Bhot nor Tibet escaped. Imports of wool rose and imports of salt and borax declined; the fall in the latter case being attributed to the growing popularity of Sambhar as compared with Tibetan salt. There was a large decrease in imports from Nepal, chiefly of grains and fibrous products, but the value rose; on the other hand export trade increased, but its value declined.

Broadly speaking, the conditions affecting industrial progress were similar to those of the previous year. Despite the cessation of war orders the demand for local products was strong and capital was on the whole plentiful; but throughout the period both the major established industries of the province and the present minor industries to which war conditions have given their opportunity were hampered by difficulties in obtaining men and material. In most of the growing industries of the province more scientific methods and better organization are called for, and the Local Government is endeavouring to meet the need by provision of experts and a large expansion in the programme of technical education. Especially is this the case with the glass, metal-ware and leather industries, all of which have flourished under war conditions, but will require technical assistance and advice in the wider competition of the future. The opening of a new Carpentry School at Allahabad, together with the development of the Wood-working Institute at Bareilly, should have an important effect on the progress of all branches of the timber and wood-working trades both for the training of employers and workmen and for the supply of good material. A new technical school has also been opened during the year at Jhansi, where the students will be apprenticed to the Great Indian Peninsula Railway and receive practical instruction in the railway workshops. The Dyeing and Printing School at Cawnpore which already attracts students from all parts of India is being enlarged. The school has been very successful and has an excellent future before it. The weaving industry made very encouraging progress and the majority of the established weaving schools are doing well. A large expansion in the number of peripatetic schools of this kind is contemplated. The necessity for strengthening the Department of Industries has come to the front during the year and a Deputy Director has now been appointed to assist the Director. The appointment of a second Deputy Director and of one, if not two, Industrial Engineers on lines recommended by the Indian Industrial Commission is under consideration.

Mention should also be made in connection with industrial and agricultural development of the creation of a Board of Communications as an advisory body to keep industrial and agricultural interests in close touch with the railway authorities and advise the Local Government on all questions connected with the improvement of communications. The Board consists of representatives from each of the different railway systems in the province, the heads of all departments, members nominated by the Chambers of Commerce, and members elected by the non-official members of the Legislative Council. Two meetings of the Board were held during the year and a large programme for the improvement and extension of metalled roads has been drawn up for execution in order of priority as soon as funds can be provided.

Police and Crime.

7. It was natural that a year of scarcity and high prices should result in an increase of crime quite apart from the special conditions brought about by the war. Both influences combined caused a large increase during the year in the number of serious offences against persons and property. There was, however, a somewhat surprising decrease in minor offences against property which it is not so easy to explain. Taking the statistics as a whole the figures under the circumstances are quite

satisfactory, being lower than those of any other year since 1912. The only disquieting feature was a very large increase in the number of dacoities, the figure rising from 767 in 1917 to the unprecedented height of 1,954. It is not easy to assign their just proportion to the various causes which contributed to this result. But among the influences which undoubtedly operated—unrest caused by high prices, uncertainty regarding the issue of the war, a widespread belief among the most turbulent sections of the community that Government was so engrossed with the war that the reins of control had been loosened, the failure of the monsoon and the consequent shortage of foodgrains—there can be little doubt that the economic was the preponderating cause.

The position of the police force is not yet satisfactory; despite temporary increases in pay and allowances there was a further large increase in resignations and desertions, though this was partly due to the formation of Police battalions and the rumours of conscription to which this gave rise. The re-organization of the whole force is now being considered by a special committee.

Excise.

8. The excise revenue for the year was the best on record by nearly 10 per cent. During the first part of the year the consuming classes were unusually prosperous, owing to the good harvests of the previous year, the commercial activity due to the war, and the good wages earned either in the Army or in work connected with it; the failure of the monsoon and the cessation of manufacture of war material which followed the Armistice caused a marked decline in the purchasing power of consumers during the last quarter of the year, but the influenza epidemic, during which country spirit was much used as a preventive, and overstocking by retail vendors in anticipation of heavy enhancements of duty, prevented the consumption figures for the last half of the year from being as low as they would have been otherwise. The statistics for the year bear out generally the opinion expressed in last year's report that while a substantial increase in duty will tend to check consumption, in a year of economic prosperity increased rates of duty will bring in a larger revenue. Distilleries were handicapped during the year in various ways; they were unable to replace their machinery; shortage of railway transport caused a shortage of coal and some firms had in consequence either to suspend distillation or to burn wood. The general rise in price of the raw material added to these difficulties and Government found it necessary in some cases to revise contracts. Other features of interest which may be noted were a substantial reduction in the number of shops of all kinds, a decrease in the number of convictions for drunkenness, and a decrease in the number of opium and cocaine cases. The decline in the cocaine traffic during the last few years has been very marked and is attributed to the stopping of imports from Germany.

Forests.

9. The record of the Forest department continues to be most satisfactory and promising. Financial results are, as usual, somewhat obscured by the system of charging large items of capital expenditure to the current accounts. This reduced the surplus by 10 lakhs although the year was again a record one as regards gross revenue, which exceeded the figures of the previous year by four and a half lakhs. The department was still handicapped by the absence of many officers on military duty, and a further difficulty was experienced in the scanty supply of railway wagons available

for timber and fuel traffic, the shortage being due in part to fodder operations necessitated by the drought.

Considerable progress was made with the measures initiated in the previous year for a more scientific exploitation of the forests. There was again a considerable increase in the resin output, but it was found impossible to complete the new distillery at Bareilly within the time anticipated, unexpected difficulties being met with in obtaining parts of the machinery. The erection of a new Sawmills and Turnery factory at Bareilly has been commenced; and the Carpentry School there has been made over to the Forest department and converted into a Wood-working Institute for the testing of timber and training of labour. A new Utilization circle was created during the year to include all these forms of forest activity together with research generally. Its work was much hampered at first by shortage of staff: the limited power of the Local Government in regard to the creation of new appointments caused delay. The most urgent requirements have now been met and the difficulty should not be felt so acutely in future.

Other features of interest included an arrangement for the extraction of sal sleepers from Nepal in pursuance of an offer by the Nepal Durbar to the British Government. Various advantages are expected to result from this undertaking. Under the head of Afforestation the most interesting feature was the ravine reclamation work in the Etawah district, in a tract which had been very badly hit by the drought. The work was utilized as a form of famine relief under the management of forest officials and the success attained in most adverse circumstances is very encouraging. Sleepers and other timber, tan stuffs, rosin and turpentine continued to be supplied in large quantities to the Indian Munitions Board for war purposes as long as the demand continued.

Public Works.

10 On the Buildings and Roads side of the Public Works department little constructive work could be accomplished or even begun. The dominant factor in the early part of the period was the strict subordination of all civil works to war needs; work in the main was restricted to urgent preliminary and other measures, few of which involved actual construction. The department gave considerable assistance to the military authorities by the erection of temporary quarters for Indian troops and the remodelling of jails and other buildings for the same purpose. It is now faced with urgent demands from all sides, which will tax its resources for some years to come. The programme involves the preparation of a large number of important revenue, police and other building projects covering the whole area of the province, and as this was beyond the capacity of the ordinary staff a special "Project circle" was temporarily formed and staffed with officers who had recently been demobilized, for the purpose of framing a series of large building projects arranged in convenient territorial groups.

The Irrigation Branch naturally benefits financially by a season of drought and its increase in revenue in the year ending on the 31st March, 1919 amounted to over 10 lakhs in consequence of the greater area irrigated. Fair progress was made on the more important works under construction, though some had to be held in abeyance owing to lack of funds. The execution of several others has had to be postponed owing to the difficulty of acquiring land in Native States. The schemes in connection with the Sarda Canal are now being taken in hand.

Politics.

11. No great political development took place during the year. Moderate politicians maintained a favourable attitude towards the Reform Scheme, while the extremist party persisted in their determination to reject it *in toto* and became still more assertive in their demands. Despite a tendency to criticize official methods and to compare unfavourably the professions of the Allied countries with their practice the moderate press generally supported Government and condemned the extremist policy, and this together with the abstention of moderate politicians from the special session of the United Provinces Political Conference and the Bombay Special Congress still further widened the breach between the two parties. Special pleading for Turkey was the leading feature of the Muslim press, the tone of which was on the whole loyal and satisfactory. The entente between the two communities was not so pronounced as in the previous year and showed some signs of weakening, very bitter antagonism being aroused by the Katarpur riot at which several Muhammadans lost their lives.

Public Health.

12. Disease had been unusually prevalent in 1917, but the figures of that year are thrown entirely in the shade by those of 1918 which was unhealthy to an extraordinary degree. During the first part of the year plague and relapsing fever claimed many victims. The number of deaths from plague in each of the first three months of the year exceeded 40,000; the number fell to 29,000 in April and from then onwards the disease rapidly declined, the climatic conditions being unfavourable to its spread. The mortality rate for plague for the whole year, however, rose from 2·76 per 1,000 in 1917 to 3·73. Cholera which took its place has an even worse record, the rate for the year rising from ·46 to 2·56. The disease began to spread rapidly in March and increased in virulence with the hot weather, 37,000 deaths being recorded in June. In the second half of the year there was some decline, but several thousand deaths occurred in each month. All other epidemics, however, were overshadowed by the calamitous outbreak of pneumonic influenza in the autumn. Of the three million odd deaths registered under the head of fever over two million occurred during the last quarter of the year and may safely be ascribed almost exclusively to this cause. November alone recorded nearly a million deaths. It is noteworthy as an indication that economic conditions had little to do with the spread of the disease that districts which were most affected by the drought suffered no more than those which had enjoyed a fair harvest. The death rate for fever rose from 27·05 to 68·72 and the total death rate for all causes from 37·91 to 82·37, while the birth rate fell from 46·08 to 39·89. In the circumstances of the year with disease rife to an unprecedented extent and the medical staff still short-handed little medical or sanitary progress could be expected or can be claimed. Science here as throughout the world was helpless in the face of a catastrophe which could not have been anticipated and for which ordinary prophylactic measures seemed useless. It is, however, a matter for satisfaction that the great festivals, including the Kumbh Mela at Allahabad, passed off without any outbreak of epidemic disease and the medical authorities deserve credit for the arrangements which conduced to this immunity.

Cooperative Societies.

13. The progress made by co-operative societies was slight, but in view of the adverse conditions of the year it may be considered satisfactory. There was a fairly large increase in the number of societies, a relatively

smaller increase in the number of members, while the working capital increased from Rs. 113 to Rs. 116 lakhs. Both advances to primary societies and collections were shorter than in the previous year. The fall in advances is partly due to the fact that the taqavi advances made by Government reduced the demand of members on their societies for loans, and partly to the greater care exercised by central banks in making advances in view of the large arrears outstanding. The increase in the number of societies and the working capital is mainly amongst primary agricultural societies. The number of such societies increased by 313 and their membership by 158. This small increase in membership is chiefly due to the fact that the new societies are much smaller than those which were dissolved. The record of non-agricultural and agricutural non-credit societies continues on the whole to be disappointing. With a few exceptions they show little sign of vitality and there appears to be a tendency in these societies for members to become apathetic. Especially is this the case with cattle insurance societies, ghee societies and distributive stores. Since the close of the co-operative year the general position has been reviewed by the Lieutenant-Governor in a resolution which calls on both officials and non-officials to give more encouragement to the movement. It is pointed out that in these provinces it has not yet emerged from the stage of education, experiment and propaganda, but there is every reason to think that it is now being conducted on correct principles and that in course of time it will fulfil the expectations that are entertained of it. Steps are now being taken to effect a substantial increase in the staff and to create a greater interest in the movement among industries.

Municipalities and Local Self-Government.

14. During the year, two-thirds of the total number of municipal boards were working under non-official chairmen. A general election at the close of the year brought about considerable changes in the personnel of the boards. Steps have been taken to replace octroi by terminal taxation, but progress in this direction is necessarily slow. The income of the boards has greatly increased and is in excess of the expenditure, which, however, has also risen. On the whole, it can be said that the finances of most boards are satisfactory. There was a tendency to increase expenditure without making adequate provision for corresponding increase in revenue. This omission, however, was rather in the direction of laxity in collection than a reluctance to impose new taxation. In several boards party spirit prevails so strongly as to prejudice administration. In one municipality there is a party of passive resisters to all taxation led by some of the members themselves. On the whole there has been progress, but until members realize more fully their responsibility to the constituents and the electorates realize more fully that it is their duty to examine and criticize the actions of their representatives, such blots on municipal administration cannot be removed.

The work of the year was comparatively uneventful for district boards. The activities of most of the boards were restricted by the war conditions and by the epidemic of influenza. Considerable progress has been made towards the expansion of primary education and there has been a satisfactory improvement all round, though the epidemic mentioned above has tended to retard it. A number of boards opened shops for the sale of cheap salt and cheap grain and the results were on the whole satisfactory. Many non-official members have done good work and the number of paid non-official secretaries is increasing. During the year Government considered

the question of the constitution and functions of district boards and formulated a scheme which would confer upon them far greater powers than they at present possess. The scheme, however, has not yet reached its final shape.

Education.

15. In view of the adverse conditions of the year little educational progress could be expected and the record so far as it goes may be considered satisfactory. There was a very fair increase of 717 in the number of public institutions and of 16,116 in the number of scholars attending them. Private institutions were affected to a greater extent by the drought and high prices and show a decrease of 723 schools and 9,695 scholars. There was a fairly general decline in the number of candidates for university examinations, this being most noticeable in the case of the Matriculation examination which is losing in popularity owing to the superior attractions of the school-leaving examination. Results, however, somewhat improved. The number of colleges remained unchanged, but there was some decline in the number of students, mostly due to special causes. The number of Oriental schools teaching Arabic and Persian increased from 344 to 358, but enrolment declined from 9,801 to 8,843. There was some fall both in the number of Sanskrit pathshalas and of the students attending them. The number of secondary schools rose from 650 to 664, while the number of scholars fell from 91,177 to 89,037, the decline occurring chiefly in Anglo-vernacular schools. The year saw the initiation of several important developments which will in time profoundly affect secondary education. The most far-reaching of these perhaps is the decision to add intermediate classes to certain of the larger Government high schools. Hardly less important is the decision to introduce compulsory courses in elementary science into the curriculum for Anglo-vernacular secondary schools and to make English an optional subject for the Vernacular final examination.

Primary schools were chiefly responsible for the total increase in the number of institutions and scholars, but it is somewhat disquieting that while the number of scholars in preparatory sections rose by over 18,000 the number in the upper primary sections fell by 1,409. It is to be feared that there is little justification for the hope that the tendency to withdraw children at an early age will be overcome merely by an extension of facilities. Until the economic condition of the rural population permits of a reasonable expenditure upon education and of the retention of the children at school beyond the age when they become useful for agricultural or other work no great change can be expected. The year saw the completion of a fresh survey of the primary education field and the launching of a fresh campaign for the expansion of elementary education. The programme covers a period of three years and provides for doubling the number of scholars within that period. A Bill was also passed permitting municipalities to introduce free and compulsory elementary education.

For the rest the tale is much the same as in previous years. Little could be done during the year towards the improvement of accommodation in schools or the building of hostels. There are still far too many untrained teachers in primary schools and until the prospects of the teaching profession can be materially improved the position is likely to remain unsatisfactory. The problem of the education of the depressed classes has not yet been solved and while an increase in the number of female students is

encouraging the provision of suitably qualified teachers in girls' schools remains a great difficulty.

Provincial finance.

16. The budget of 1917 had been framed so cautiously that while it anticipated a small deficit of less than a lakh on the year's transactions the actual figures showed a surplus of over 52 lakhs. The 1918 budget was framed in much the same spirit, but the circumstances of the year were such that there could not fail to be large variations between the figures of actual receipts and charges and the budget figures. The cessation of hostilities, the scarcity which followed the failure of the monsoon and the influenza epidemic all contributed to this result, and other causes of substantial variations were the new transactions undertaken after the budget had been framed. Receipts exceeded anticipations to much the same extent as in 1917, but while in that year expenditure was 18 lakhs less than was anticipated, in 1918 the result exceeded the estimate by 31 lakhs. For the increase in receipts thanks are chiefly due to Irrigation, Income-tax and Excise, while Sanitation and Medical charges generally and Education were largely responsible for the increased expenditure. Forest receipts exceeded anticipations by five lakhs, but expenditure under the same head was 10 lakhs more than the estimate. Receipts fell below expectations mainly under the heads of Land Revenue and Stamps The actual decrease in Land Revenue due to the failure of the monsoon was over 29 lakhs, but as over 21 lakhs was received under the terms of the provincial settlement, by which the Government of India guarantee a minimum of 240 lakhs in any one year as the provincial share of the income under this head, the net provincial decrease was not quite eight lakhs. The decrease under Stamps was due to a general decline in litigation. Expenditure was less than the budget figures under the heads of Agriculture and Police, due in the latter case to the formation of police battalions and the deputation of officers to military service. In the total result the variation from the original estimate was not material, for against an anticipated surplus of eight and a half lakhs the actual surplus on the year's operations was 12½ lakhs. The provincial balance rose from 245 to 257 lakhs, this including nearly 50 lakhs on account of unspent portions of imperial grants for education, sanitation, agricultural development, and the general purposes of the administration.

The war.

17. A review of the year which saw the triumph of the Empire's arms would be incomplete without some mention of the contribution of these provinces towards that result. Reference was made in last year's report to the formation of a War Board and to the success achieved by this organization in attracting recruits and in procuring subscriptions to the War Loan. The effort was worthily maintained as long as the need continued and the results grew more encouraging every month, especially after the Delhi Conference and the opening of an energetic publicity campaign. During the first half of 1918 the United Provinces furnished 38,757 combatant recruits as compared with 12,551 in the first half and 28,865 in the second half of 1917. This record, however, was completely eclipsed by that which was set up from the beginning of July to the close of hostilities, no less than 57,628 combatants being obtained in this period. During the last full month of recruitment the provinces easily headed the list for all India. In

all during the two years 8·8 per cent. of the martial classes of military age were recruited and the magnitude of this achievement may be gauged from the fact that at the beginning of 1915 the provinces boasted only between 17,000 and 18,000 combatants in the Army. Almost equally successful were the efforts made to raise non-combatants; no less than 38,000 were enrolled in the four months from July to October and the provincial quota was largely exceeded. For the promotion of the Second Indian War Loan a Provincial War Loan Committee was constituted in March, 1918 as a branch of the War Board and special propaganda measures were undertaken to popularize the loan. The amount subscribed to the main section was Rs. 3,88,27,400 or about 67 lakhs more than in 1917. In view of the economic conditions the sale of Post office cash certificates was not pressed on the small investor and the result of the Postal section of the loan was therefore considerably below that of the previous year. The total in this section, however, reached 123 lakhs. The chief feature of the publicity campaign was the publication of the United Provinces War Journal which was first issued in July. It immediately became a success and its educational value has been so great that it has been decided to continue publication in a modified form, even though its immediate purpose has been served. The stimulus afforded by the Journal and other instruments of the publicity campaign, both to recruiting and to war work in general, was most marked, and nothing is of more hopeful augury for the future than the way in which officials and non-officials co-operated to make the campaign a success. Innumerable volunteer workers from all classes came forward to assist and many of the leading papers, both English and vernacular, gave generous help in the form of free advertisement. Throughout the year the spirit of the province as a whole left little to be desired; the doubt as to the issue of the war that was marked in the earlier and in some respects more critical period of the year soon gave place to a worthier feeling; and the people bore their subsequent trials—the drought, the influenza and the continued rise in prices—with scarcely a murmur.

PART II.

DEPARTMENTAL CHAPTERS.

CHAPTER I.—PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

1—Physical features, area, climate, and chief staples.

(*See pages* 1 *to* 6 *of the report for* 1911-12.)

2—Political.

(For details see the annual reports on the administration of the Rampur, Tehri and Benares States).

RAMPUR.

Revenue administration.

1. Figures both of receipts and expenditure continued to expand. Collections both of Land and Excise Revenue increased, but there was a slight decline in Stamp Revenue. The total demand was about a lakh and a half more than last year. There was a slight increase in the balance unrealised. Expenditure was slightly less than revenue and included 5 lakhs on account of the purchase of war bonds.

General.

2. His Highness placed his Brook Hill Estate at Naini Tal at the disposal of Government for use as a Convalescent Home for British officers of the Indian Army. Many officers passed through the Home and it was much appreciated by all who resided there.

On the outbreak of hostilities with Afghanistan His Highness placed the entire resources of his State at the service of the Imperial Government. The offer was accepted and the Imperial Service Lancers and Imperial Service Infantry were despatched on garrison duty in Madras.

Agriculture

3. Owing to the failure of the 1918 monsoon there was a decrease in the cultivated area. The decrease, however, was smaller than might have been expected and both the demand and collections of land revenue increased.

General condition of the people.

4. There was some lack of employment in rural areas, but conditions were better in the city, where the construction of buildings by the State Public Works department and private persons created a large demand for both skilled and unskilled labour which relieved the situation to an appreciable extent. Wages were higher this year than in the preceding one.

Excise.

5. There was a large increase in the consumption of country liquor, which is attributed to the fact that last year consumption declined owing to the enhancement in duty, while consumers have now had time to get accustomed to the higher rate. Consumption is now at its former level, namely, about 29,000 gallons. Opium sales were rather more than last year and there was little change as regards *charas*. The demand for the year again rose under all three heads, the increases being respectively Rs. 15,832, Rs. 8,707 and Rs. 4,391. In the case of country liquor and *charas*, the increase is due to larger sales, while the rise in price explains the increase in respect of opium. The total arrears at the close of the year amounted to Rs. 6,530 against Rs. 8,697 last year.

Police.

6. There was less crime than in the previous year, the total number of crimes reported being 737 as against 869, or a decrease of 132. The decrease is found chiefly under the heads of Culpable Homicide, Hurt, Burglary and Theft. There was no change in the number of murder cases, but an increase from 8 to 14 in the number of cases of Dacoity and Robbery. Fifty-nine cases were sent up with successful results under section 110 of the Code against 77 last year. In view of the high prices that prevailed and the unfavourable agricultural conditions the criminal statistics for the year may be considered highly satisfactory.

Medical

7. Deaths largely outnumbered births, the figures being 7,805 births and 12,722 deaths as against 10,291 births and 9,870 deaths last year. Plague accounted for over 1,000 deaths.

Education.

8. It is to be regretted that education is not increasing in popularity. There was again a decline from 4,572 to 4,542 of scholars on the roll. A fall in numbers from 418 to 371 at the High School is attributed to the absence of a School-leaving Certificate Class and also to the greater restrictions observed of late in admitting students. The number of scholars at the Madrasa-i-Alia increased from 410 to 446 and a number of candidates from this school are reported to have sat with success at various examinations of the Punjab University.

TEHRI.

9. Mr. G. B. F. Muir, I.C.S., continued to occupy the position of President of the Council of Regency and his term was extended for a further period of one and a half years. The income of the State totalled Rs. 10·71 lakhs, an increase of a lakh and a quarter. Expenditure under all heads amounted to Rs. 10·42 lakhs. The season was unfavourable and both crops suffered from heavy and untimely rainfall. Famine Relief Works were opened in the northern portions of the State. Taqavi was advanced and a certain amount of land revenue had to be suspended. It was not, however, found necessary to grant remissions. Prices and wages continued high. The year was again fairly healthy and with the exception of five cases of cholera, no epidemic disease broke out. There was a decline in the rate both of births and deaths, but the fall was greater in respect of deaths. The land survey and settlement operations which commenced in March, 1916, are continuing satisfactorily. The Forest Settlement and the preparation of the record of rights was taken in hand during the year. The Conservator was appointed the Settlement Officer and work was begun under the direct instructions and guidance of the President. There was no change in the number of village schools, but there was again some decline in enrolment. The number of boys at the Hewett Sanskrit Pathshala again decreased, the reasons given being the same as noticed in the last year's report, namely, the opening of a middle vernacular school and general lack of interest in the Sanskrit language. There was also again a slight fall in the enrolment at the Pratap High School.

BENARES STATE.

10. There was again a very large increase in receipts and expenditure which is chiefly accounted for by war loan investments being included on both sides. At the same time there were real signs of expansion in the revenue. Land Revenue receipts increased by nearly a lakh and there was some slight increase in expenditure also under this head. The year was again fairly favourable for agriculture, the rainfall of 1917 being copious. Parts of the State had quite good crops, but others suffered from excessive rain. There was a decline from 2,997 to 1,645 in the total number of deaths from plague, but cholera claimed many victims.

There was a slight increase in the number of persons brought to trial before the criminal courts, but actual crime showed some decrease. In general the administration of Criminal Justice calls for little remark.

Vernacular schools again increased from 75 to 78 and the number of scholars rose by 338. All three new schools were primary. While the history of vernacular schools is "a record of steady progress all round," English schools did not fare so well and numbers declined both at the Meston High School at Ramnagar and the Lovett High School at Gayanpur. Little progress has been made in female education, the chief difficulty being in obtaining suitable teachers.

Irrigation facilities were multiplied and the Karamnasa Canal Scheme was greatly improved by the addition and improvement in distributaries. Two reservoirs were completed and assisted to bring thousands of acres of waste land under cultivation.

Assistance in connection with the war was rendered by His Highness in various ways. The second section of the Ambulance Transport Corps was despatched to the Front and did duty at Aden. The Lady Chelmsford War Hospital continued to do much useful work. Five lakhs

were contributed by the State to the second war loan and recruiting which had originally been slow made much better progress.

3—Historical Summary.

4—Form of Administration.

5—Character of land tenure, and system of survey and settlement.

6—Civil divisions of British territory.

7—Details of last census, tribes, and language.

(For sections 3 *to* 7 *see pages* 8 *to* 41 *of the report for the year* 1911-12.*)*

8—Change in administration.

11. The Hon'ble Sir Spencer Harcourt Butler, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., held charge of the provinces throughout the year.

9—Relations with tributary States and frontier affairs.

12. No boundary disputes were settled during the year. The settlement of disputes between various districts and States was in progress. The inclusion of the town of Ramnagar in the State of Benares was announced in June, 1919, and the actual transfer took place in August of the same year.

10—Condition of the people.

(For details see the annual report on the revenue administration by the Board of Revenue for the year ending the 30*th September,* 1918.*)*

Season and crops.

13. The revenue year, which ended on the 30th September, 1918, began in some ways not unlike the year which preceded it. The monsoon of 1916 has been unusually steady and prolonged. Similarly, in 1917, after an abnormal monsoon, heavy rain again fell at the end of October and, as in 1916, the winter rainfall which followed was in defect. The late rainfall in October interfered with preparations for the *rabi* but mitigated to some extent the failure of the winter rains as sowings took place at a time when there was abundant moisture in the soil. On the other hand, in some parts, especially in Bundelkhand, some of the land had been sown after insufficient preparation with the result that in many places the crop was thin. For the *kharif* of 1917 the rainfall in the Doab and Bundelkhand was too heavy for the class of crops mainly grown. The cotton was particularly bad and *juar* was also poor. The rice was a good crop as was also sugarcane and the high prices which the cultivators obtained for the little cotton that survived compensated them to some extent for their losses on the other staples. The *rabi* of 1918 was not so good as in the previous year, the gram particularly and unirrigated wheat being disappointing. The irrigated wheat crop however, was generally good and fetched high prices. The year might have been one of exceptional prosperity but for the calamities that occurred towards the end of it. Agricultural produce fetched high prices. Large quantities of *bhusa* were purchased by the Military department and considerable remittances poured into the villages from the many recruits that joined both the combatant and non-combatant branches of the Army. The rural population was probably never before so plentifully supplied with funds. But the failure of the 1918 *kharif*, the widespread epidemic of influenza and pneumonia, and the high prices of seed and clothing threw a gloom over the last months of the year.

Prices, trade and health.

14. The continuance of the war, the export of wheat, traffic difficulties and the failure of the monsoon combined to keep prices at a high level throughout the year. There was a slight fall when the *rabi* harvests

came on the market and a sharp rise in September when the agricultural outlook was at its blackest. The rise in the prices of the coarse grains which are the staple food of the poor classes was specially marked and this, with a further increase in the price of cloth and articles of clothing, caused some distress amongst the consuming classes, particularly those of the towns. Wheat varied from over 10 seers to the rupee in October, 1917, to less than 5½ seers in September, 1918. Gram rose from over 16 seers in October, 1917, to a little over 8 seers in September, 1918 and *juar* and *bajra* from 15 seers in October to only 5½ seers in September of the following year.

Provincial trade, while maintaining the recovery from the depression of 1914-15, was still below the volume that was normal before 1913-14. The total external rail-borne traffic was less only by two lakhs of maunds than the figure of 1916-17; whilst its value increased by 858 lakhs of rupees. But whilst the imports of the year were much below, its exports were much above the corresponding figures of the preceding year. The decline in imports was chiefly in coal and coke, grain and salt and the increase in exports was chiefly in grains—a proof that the province as a result of fair harvests was in the strong position of having large stocks of food that commanded high prices to spare. The chief feature as regards exports was the increase and steady flow of fodder and grains to the ports of Bombay and Karachi, while the most notable decrease of imports occurred in Burma rice from Calcutta—a fact that must have had an important effect on the price of other food-stuffs.

Except in the Kumaun and Jhansi divisions, the year was generally unhealthy, cholera, plague, and relapsing fever prevailing in more or less epidemic form over large areas among both urban and rural populations, while towards the end of the year the world-wide epidemic influenza appeared in virulent form and, combined with pneumonia, swept off large numbers. The total number of recorded deaths was 21·92 lakhs as compared with 16·63 lakhs in 1916-17. Cholera carried away over a lakh of people as compared with some fifteen thousand in the previous year and plague over two lakhs as against one lakh in 1916-17. The greatest mortality from influenza occurred after the close of the year.

CHAPTER II.—ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

11—Realisation of the Land Revenue.

(For details see the annual report on the revenue administration of the Board of Revenue for the year ending the 30th September, 1918.)

Total demand and collection.

15. Out of a total demand of Rs. 887 lakhs on account of land revenue, cesses and rates, Rs. 870 lakhs were collected and Re. ¼ lakh were remitted, leaving a balance of Rs. 16¾ lakhs. In the latter the principal items were Rs. 2¾ lakhs of land revenue and Rs. 3 lakhs suspended and Rs. 9¾ lakhs uncollected from amounts due on account of agricultural loans under Acts XII and XIX.

Land Revenue.

16. The demand under land revenue was Rs. 660 lakhs, of which Rs. 657 lakhs were collected. Of the Rs. 1·34 lakhs suspended, Muttra accounted for Rs. 1·12 lakhs, Agra Rs. 14,584, Etah, Rs. 3,792, and Budaun Rs. 2,316. Remissions for the year were small. The real balance outstanding at the close of the year was only Rs. 3,483, out of which Rs. 845 were credited just after the close of the year and the remainder was under recovery.

Rates.

17. There was an increase of nearly Rs. 10 lakhs in the demand for occupier's rate, this being due to short winter rains. Increases occurred in all the canal divisions except Rohilkhand and Naini Tal. The decrease in Rohilkhand which was largest in Pilibhit was caused by excessive rain in the months of June and October, 1917, and to the moisture left in the soil for the *rabi*. Of the total enforceable demand of Rs. 100 lakhs, Rs. 99·6 lakhs was actually collected. Of the Rs. 37,146 left outstanding the Agra division was responsible for Rs. 19,992 and the Meerut division for

Rs. 15,349. The total realizable demand for owner's rates fell from Rs. 1·14 lakhs to Rs. 1·01 lakhs, of which all was collected except Rs. 880.

Advances.

18. The total sum advanced under the Agricultural Loans and Improvements Acts was again very small, aggregating Rs. 9·12 lakhs only as compared with Rs. 12·67 lakhs in the previous year and Rs. 27·31 lakhs in 1915-16. The general causes of the diminution were the same as those noted last year. Plant and materials were still costly and difficult to obtain; while agricultural advances were not pushed so actively as could have been the case in easier financial times. Labour also was short and dear; while the heavy rainfall of 1917 did not encourage well-building. Under Act XII the amount advanced, viz., Rs. 7·20 lakhs, was much the same as in the previous year and, as in that year went practically all to a few restricted areas. The Agra division took over Rs. 4½ lakhs, of which Muttra alone again distributed over Rs. 2½ lakhs. Outside this division Garhwal took the next largest amount, chiefly in subsistence *taqavi*.

Advances under Act XIX decreased in practically all districts. Of the total of Rs. 1·91 lakhs advanced, Jaunpur took the largest sum, over Rs. 80,000; while Muttra took the next largest, Rs. 28,000. The remainder was advanced in small amounts in 33 other districts. The general results of the year's operations with the aid of advances under this Act were that 2,057 new masonry wells were completed, 3,486 were in process of building, and 112 were repaired; 30 new embankments and five new tanks were constructed; 44 embankments and 8 tanks were under construction, while 18 other embankments were repaired or were under repairs. The figures were naturally smaller than those of the previous year.

Under Act XII, after deducting postponements and suspensions amounting to Rs. 2·59 lakhs, there were Rs. 14·74 lakhs left for collection. Of this, Rs. 10·30 lakhs were realized, or only 70 per cent. as compared with 84 per cent. in 1916-17 and 90 per cent. in 1915-16. Out of the total net demand of Rs. 24·28 lakhs for repayment under Act XIX, Rs. 18·92 lakhs or 78 per cent were recovered, as compared with 83 per cent. in the previous year. These low percentages were again due to the excessive balances in the two districts of Agra and Etah, and the Local Government has drawn the attention of the Collectors of these districts to the matter. There were also special reasons this year which affected collections, namely, the deputation of experienced tahsildars to various forms of war work and the heavy demands made on the tahsil staffs by this work.

Coercive processes.

19. There was again a considerable drop in the number of coercive processes issued during the year. Last year's total which was less by 10 per cent. than that of the previous year was 190,840 and this year the aggregate was only 184,734. The total, however, is still high as compared with the figure of 1913-14, viz., 162,550. But for the adverse agricultural conditions which set in in the last quarter of the year, the improvement would probably have been still more pronounced. The decrease in the total was spread over all heads of processes except warrants of arrest and annulments of settlement. The number of annulments of settlement is insignificant. Warrants of arrest rose from 13,808 to 15,364. It is doubtful whether all these warrants were really required, but the increase is attributed in some places to a spirit of unrest occasioned by the prolongation of the war and by the news of military reverses to the Allied arms in the spring, leading ignorant zamindars to hang back in the hope of payment being evaded.

12—Settlements.

20. The work of settlement and the revision of records was in its last stages in the districts of Gorakhpur, Basti, and Bulandshahr and was completed in a small riverain tract of Azamgarh. Work was begun in October on the Saharanpur settlement and good progress had been made by the close of the year. The revision of records in Muzaffarnagar continued satisfactorily.

Case-work.

21. Case-work in the Gorakhpur district was again heavy. The total number of cases for disposal was somewhat less. Nearly all cases, however, in the western charge were disposed of and only some 3,000 remained for disposal in the eastern charge. There was a large balance in Basti and special arrangements were made for their disposal by the appointment of two Deputy Collectors as Assistant Settlement Officers. The balance in Bulandshahr was largely reduced and only 23 disputes connected with the revision of records were pending at the close of the year. Some 3,000 applications for enhancement of rent have still to be decided, but the work is well in hand. Good progress was made in Saharanpur with disputes regarding the records, but there was a considerable balance of applications for enhancement of rent. Appellate work progressed satisfactorily.

Cost of settlement operations.

22. The expenditure during the year in the four districts under settlement amounted to Rs. 4·86 lakhs as against Rs. 4·83 lakhs in the previous year.

13—Land Records.

Establishment.

23. Under the new arrangement for providing supervisor kanungos for the Naini Tal Tarai noticed last year two selected patwaris were sent for training to the districts of Bareilly and Gonda, and after completing their training there were employed, one as a patwari school teacher and the other as a supervisor kanungo.

Patwaris.

24. Eight patwaris were permanently promoted as assistant registrar kanungos; while 25 others received officiating promotions as such. One got a permanent post of partition amin and 41 were appointed in officiating vacancies, two were appointed as extra amins. Thirty-eight were appointed to act as supervisor kanungos; one as a naib-nazir and another as a copyist. The percentage of patwaris holding the school certificate was slightly less, being 96 against 96·3 last year; that of exemptions was practically the same; while that of unpassed patwaris rose from 2·74 to 3. No definite opinion can yet be expressed as to the results of the changes introduced last year in the system of granting scholarships to the students from the hilly tracts of the Allahabad and Mirzapur districts as an inducement to join the patwari school. The improvement in the results of the patwari schools' half-yearly examinations continues.

Kanungos.

25. Prospects of promotion in this line continue to be good. Two diplomate sadr kanungos were selected as approved kanungos for tahsildarship and one sadr kanungo was appointed to act as a naib-tahsildar. Seven supervisor kanungos secured permanent promotion as sadr kanungos and five were appointed to officiate as such. Four were appointed as permanent naib-tahsildars and some 35 were appointed to act in officiating vacancies. The number of supervisors selected as approved candidates for naib-tahsildarship was 13 against 7 last year. A special feature of the year was the employment of a number of supervisor kanungos on work in connection with the collection of *bhusa* for the Army, work which, on the whole, they performed with credit.

Revision of circles.

26. Proposals for the re-adjustment of the existing patwaris' circles and the revision of the patwari establishment in the Kashipur sub-division of the Naini Tal district were sanctioned during the year. Modified proposals in respect of the re-allocation of patwaris' circles in the six tahsils of the Allahabad district, which were recently under settlement, are under consideration. There were also minor changes in the staff of one or two other districts.

Testing of papers.

27. The testing by supervisors materially fell short of the minimum standards in the districts of Gorakhpur and Basti owing to the pressure of settlement work. Elsewhere the standards were generally fully worked up to, the provincial percentages being, as a rule, in excess of the prescribed minima in the case of all the records. Testing by superior officers fell off owing to most of the members of the district staff being engaged in war work in one form or another. It is reported that there is still a tendency

to devote too much attention to untested entries and the Director of Land Records and Agriculture considers that the testing was generally neither as searching nor as thorough as it ought to have been. He is of opinion that no permanent improvement can be effected until a whole-time officer can be appointed to take charge of the land record system in each district, whose work can be directly reviewed by him. Measures to attain this end are now under contemplation.

Maps, records, and boundary marks.

28. Orders were issued during the year to the Commissioners of the Benares and Gorakhpur divisions directing that the policy of concentrating attention upon one particular point of land records each season should not be overlooked. The orders appear to have been carried out in most districts of the divisions. The condition of maps is generally reported to be satisfactory and action was taken, as usual, for keeping them up to date. Boundary marks are also in a satisfactory state and proper steps for their repair or renewal, where necessary, are reported to have been taken except in two districts where, for special reasons, nothing could be done. The accuracy of the work done in connection with the experimental scheme of fixing permanent boundary pillars in the alluvial areas in the Ballia district was tested with satisfactory results. Pending the next revision of records it is now proposed first to have the boundaries of all the villages embraced by the scheme defined accurately on the spot and afterwards to have necessary measurements carried out by competent patwaris under proper supervision.

Concealment of rents.

29. Concealment of rents was detected in 13 villages in the Shahjahanpur district. Other districts have reported no serious cases. Reports from Rae Bareli, Partabgarh, and Bara Banki speak of the prevalence of the practice of *nazrana* i.e., payment of heavy fees to the landholders by the tenants at the time of renewal of leases.

14—Waste Lands.

30. There is nothing of importance to record.

15—Government Estates.

(For details as regards minor estates and Dudhi, see the annual report on the revenue administration by the Board of Revenue, for the year ending the 30th September, 1918, and for the Government estates in the Kumaun division, see the separate reports for the year ending the 31st March, 1919.)*

Minor estates.

31. Thirteen new properties were acquired and 12 restored or sold, leaving 544 under the management of the Board. Of these, 180 are in Bundelkhand and 216 in Oudh. The current demand increased by Rs. 40,882 owing chiefly to the Government resuming direct charge of the Holagarh and Kharagapur estates in Allahabad and the old stud lands in Ghazipur consequent on the death of the late lessees, Messrs. Fox and Aitcheson. Collections were the same as last year, i.e. 95 per cent, but the outstanding balance increased from Rs. 19,015 to Rs. 22,162, of which Rs. 3,464 is reported to be irrecoverable. Over half the recoverable arrears belong to Allahabad and Agra. The arrears in the former district are partly due to accounts not yet adjusted with the estate of the late lessees.

Dudhi.

32. The Dudhi estate had, on the whole, a favourable year. Rents were realised in full, but the total income was less by Rs. 10,639 than in the previous year, there being a large fall in the receipts from lac owing to damage by frost. The existing roads and buildings were maintained in good order and certain minor new works were carried out. The introduction of free education is reported to be promising good results. The management of the estate was again satisfactory.

Tarai Bhabar estates.

33. The monsoon broke late in June; the fall was light and ceased early in September and the *kharif* was as elsewhere, far below the average. Early cessation of the rains coupled with a bad outbreak of rinderpest among the cattle and the influenza epidemic interfered considerably with the sowings. Good winter rain and high prices, however, amply recouped the cultivators

for the reduced *rabi* area. After deducting Rs. 67,060 on account of land revenue, the expenditure of the year under report was Rs. 4,34,435 as against Rs. 4,30,916 during the previous year. This increase is due to the grant of grain compensation allowance to menials. Gross receipts increased from Rs. 7,54,438 to Rs. 7,92,809, the increase being almost entirely due to the increase in income from Forest, which more than made up for a drop in rents. Apart from influenza, the general health of the estates was better than usual. There were no bad epidemics of cholera, small-pox and, thanks to the early cessation of the rains, malaria did less damage than usual. Births fell from 4,238 to 3,844 and deaths rose from 7,755 to 12,736. Influenza spread throughout the Tarai, but the Bhabar was more fortunate and only a few isolated villages were attacked in each tahsil. Travelling dispensaries did excellent work during the epidemic.

Garhwal-Bhabar estates.

34. The total demand for the year in the Garhwal-Bhabar estates was Rs. 31,282 as against Rs. 34,333 in the previous year. The whole demand was collected in full before the year closed. Gross receipts decreased from Rs. 34,333 to Rs. 29,402, this decrease being due to the remission of small sums of rent on account of damage done to the *kharif* crops by the drought. The expenditure amounted to Rs. 24,276 as against Rs. 27,768 in the preceding year and exceeded the sanctioned estimate by Rs. 5,489. This excess over the estimate was mainly due to the special grant of Rs. 4,150 sanctioned for the diversion of the Right Malan Canal. The tenantry naturally felt the failure of the *kharif* crop but, on the whole, they withstood the effects of the bad season well. The influenza epidemic was very bad in the estates during October and November and raised the total number of deaths for the year to 800 as against 301 in the previous year.

16—Wards' estates.

(*For details see the annual report on the operations of the Court of Wards for the year ending the 30th September*, 1918.)

Number of estates under the court.

35. The Court of Wards had under their management during the year 170 estates. Twenty-three estates were released and three estates with a combined income of Rs. 1·60 lakhs were taken over.

Estates taken over or released.

36. The 23 estates referred to were released either in the usual course on the wards dying or attaining their majority or on the liquidation of the debts with which their estates were burdened or for other good reasons. No indebted estate was released. Of the three estates taken over the proprietors in two cases were minors and the proprietor in the third was found to be suffering from mental defects. Intervention was refused in several cases.

Financial.

37. The gross receipts amounted to Rs. 125 lakhs. The main items of expenditure were Government revenue, Rs. 34 lakhs, maintenance and education of wards Rs. 19 lakhs, and payment of debts Rs. 29 lakhs. Management charges accounted for Rs. 9 lakhs and works of improvement nearly Rs. 6 lakhs. Over Rs. 25 lakhs were invested as compared with Rs. 15 lakhs in the previous year.

Rent collections.

38. Collections of the current and arrear demands amounted to Rs. 91·98 lakhs and Rs. 1·48 lakhs respectively. The percentage of collections on the current demand is 95·8 per cent. as compared with 94·7 per cent. the year before. Collections were worst in the Meerut and Agra divisions for which various reasons are given. In the Agra division low collections are partly explained by the release of five important estates. Other causes are the comparative failure of the *kharif* harvest, damage to the *rabi* at harvest time and sickness among the tenants. The collections on account of arrear demands were 97·4 per cent. or 1·1 per cent. below the figure of the previous year.

Land Revenue.

39. A sum of Rs. 34·70 lakhs was paid on account of Land Revenue, rates and cesses, a charge of 35 per cent. on the current rental demand and 37 per cent. on the current rental collections.

Cost of management.

40. The total cost of management amounted to approximately Rs. 9·06 lakhs or Rs. 1·94 lakhs less than in the preceding year.

Repayment of debts.

41. The debts due from the estates have been reduced during the year from Rs. 146 lakhs to Rs. 133 lakhs. The apparent reduction would have been greater had not it been decided that solvent estates should take advantage of the scheme formulated by the Bank of Bengal to encourage investments in the War Loan. Under this scheme the estates borrowed Rs. 8·77 lakhs which they will repay in instalments spread over a period of two years. The sum thus borrowed is included in the amount returned as debts due from the estates. The actual sum paid in liquidation of old debts was roughly Rs. 20 lakhs, Rs. 4½ lakhs being raised by sales of property and Rs. 15½ lakhs from surplus profits. Liquidation was hampered by the dull state of the property market.

Improvements.

42. Some Rs. 6 lakhs were expended on improvements which is less by Rs. 1½ lakhs than last year. The decrease is due to the diversion of all available savings to the War Loan and also to the difficulty of procuring material at reasonable prices. Schemes of development have been devised for a number of the larger estates which are free from debt. The estates continue to co-operate in this matter with the Agricultural department. There was a slight increase in the number of wells put down during the year. A number of estates report that the varieties of crops recommended by the Agricultural department were distributed and achieved rapid popularity. Endeavours are being made to establish demonstration farms on the larger estates and proposals for the reclamation of waste land on the estates are under consideration.

Sanitation and education.

43. The expenditure on sanitation and medical aid fell from last year's figure of Rs. 54,147 to Rs. 37,385, the chief cause being the release of certain important estates. Of the total amount, Rs. 18,190 were paid into the funds of various medical institutions and some Rs. 2,000 were spent on the free distribution of quinine, chlorodyne, camphor, and other well-tried specifics. Rupees 5,821 were spent on maintenance and Rs. 6,537 on extensions and improvements. The expenditure on village sanitation amounted to Rs. 9,453.

Rupees 60,510 were expended on education, or some Rs. 23,000 less than in the previous year. The decrease was due to release of certain estates, notably Awa in the Etah district, which used to subscribe handsomely to educational objects. The estates supported in all 102 schools, the majority of which are well reported on by the inspecting staff of the district boards.

Agricultural banks.

44. The progress of the co-operative movement in Court of Wards' villages is not as satisfactory as could be wished. Endeavours are being made to foster a revival of interest in the movement and the suggestion made by the Registrar of Co-operative Societies that zilladars should receive a short course of training from the Government inspector in charge of the circle has been approved.

Litigation.

45. In the interest of good administration and economy, strenuous efforts were made on the part of the district authorities to avoid litigation with the tenantry. The Court of Wards appeared as plaintiff or defendant in nine civil suits exceeding Rs. 10,000 in value. Of these, one was decided in favour of the court and the remaining eight were not disposed of during the year. Of 24 appeals, in which the court appeared as appellant or respondent, four were decided entirely and two partly in its favour. One was lost, one was compromised, one was remanded, and 15 were pending at the close of the year.

Accounts.

46. The accounts of 104 estates with an income of over Rs. 10,000 each were audited by the Examiner, Local Fund Accounts. His reports are generally favourable. In several estates great improvements have been effected ; while in others there is still room for improvement. No falsification of accounts or embezzlements were discovered, but there was one case of criminal breach of trust.

General.

47. It is observed by the Local Government in a Resolution on the Annual Report on the working of the Court of Wards that the report is a record of sound work in a year during which, for various reasons, innovations or improvements of a striking nature were impossible. Indifferent crops due to drought and floods, high prices of many necessaries of life, and epidemics of diseases had their effect on collections and consequently retarded the

liquidation of debts. But the evils of the economic situation were, as elsewhere, counterbalanced, to some extent, by the advantage which cultivators reaped from the high prices of grain, the large *taqavi* advances, and the receipt of large sums from relatives in the ranks of the Army and the labour corps. The Court of Wards continued to give valuable assistance towards the successful prosecution of the War. Altogether 5,868 recruits, combatant and non-combatant, were furnished by the estates during the year and over Rs. 20 lakhs were invested in the War Loan. Efforts were also made to extend the area under food grains, particularly wheat, whilst the larger estates collected some 37,000 maunds of bhusa for the use of the Army.

17—Revenue and rent-paying classes.

(For details see the annual report on the revenue administration by the Board of Revenue for the year ending 30th September, 1918.)

Tenancy litigation, Agra.

48. There was a further decrease in litigation, the total of new institutions being 3,71,348 as compared with 447,139 last year—a substantial decrease of 75,791, or 17 per cent. The year thus saw an appreciable recovery towards the level of litigation of the years prior to the large increase consequent on the scarcity of 1913-41. The decline was partly attributable to a succession of good harvests coupled with high prices, partly to the large remittances sent home by villagers who had enlisted, and partly to the leniency shown by zamindars in the interests of the recruiting campaign. The bad agricultural outlook at the end of the year also helped in withholding suits for a more favourable season.

Suits for arrears of rent and ejectment for arrears.

49. Arrears of rent suits numbered 180,338 as compared with 211,816 last year—a decrease of 31,478, or 15 per cent. Except for insignificant increases from 117 to 122 suits in Kashipur (Kumaun) and from 1,052 to 1,064 in Jalaun all districts showed decreases. Applications for ejectment for decreed arrears were 48,552 as compared with 56,261 in the previous year—a decrease of 7,709, or 14 per cent. They decreased in all districts except 9, where, however, the increases were small. Ejectments were ordered in 9,836 cases, or 20 per cent. of the cases disposed of as compared with 11,390, or 19 per cent. in the previous year. The areas from which occupancy and non-occupancy tenants were ejected totalled 36,020 acres and 7,683 as compared with 41,032 and 6,888 acres respectively in the previous year.

Enhancement of rent.

50. Suits for enhancement of rent numbered 13,159 as compared with 17,373, or a decline of nearly 24 per cent. The decrease was general in all districts except Moradabad, Farrukhabad, Allahabad, Benares, Mirzapur, Ghazipur, and Gorakhpur. Various causes accounted for it. Some districts attribute it to the leniency shown by zamindars in the interests of recruiting, others to the bad agricultural situation at the end of the year which led zamindars to postpone their suits till more favourable times.

Relinquishments.

51. Relinquishments fell by 1,529 from 11,199 to 9,670 and were the fewest since 1904-05. They decreased in all but 11 districts. The increase in one district is attributed to recruiting and in another to the use of this procedure in place of formal ejectment proceedings with the object of saving costs to the parties.

Ejectments other than for arrears.

52. Suits for ejectment numbered 97,881 only as compared with 126,133—a remarkable decrease of 28,252 or 22 per cent. This number was the lowest recorded since 1905-06, except for the year 1910-11, when there was a fall to 92,606 which was attributed largely to an adverse agricultural situation in the latter portion of the year. Similarly, in the present year the unsatisfactory agricultural prospects in the last quarter of the year must be held responsible for a large portion of the total decrease. Settlement operations were also responsible for the decreases in the Gorakhpur and Meerut divisions, and leniency shown by zamindars to tenants enlisting would appear to be a further contributing cause in many districts. The decrease was universal except in Dehra Dun, Bijnor, Allahabad, and Ballia, and in these districts the increase was insignificant and due to special local causes. The largest decrease occurred in Gorakhpur and is attributed here

and also in Basti mainly to the effects of the recent improvement of village records in the current revision of settlement. The decrease, as a whole, however, must be attributed to the general reluctance to seek relief in courts of law which was evidenced during the concluding months of the War. Of the 119,329 suits disposed of ejectment was actually ordered in 91,860 cases, the percentage being 77 as in the last year. The area from which ejectment was ordered was 245,080 acres as compared with 239,457 acres in the previous year.

Protected area.

53. The gross area protected from arbitrary ejectment either by recorded occupancy rights or by 12 years' continuous holding or by long leases again increased by 66,246 acres as compared with a rise of 89,815 acres in the previous year. For this increase the increase in the area held by recorded occupancy tenants was wholly responsible, this area having increased by 455,938 acres, while there was a decrease of 371,420 acres in the area held continuously for 12 years or more though still recorded as non-occupancy, and also a slight decrease of 18,272 acres in the area on leases of seven years or more. The total increase in protected tenants' area taken as a whole has continued steadily since 1901-02 when it was under 64 per cent. of the total tenants' area. The percentage is now 71.

Rent litigation in Oudh.

54. Suits or applications under the Oudh Rent Act showed a further fall of 5 per cent. after one of nearly 6 per cent. in the year before, the total being 39,297 as compared with 41,536. The decrease in regular suits or applications was shared by all districts except Sitapur, Bahraich, and Bara Banki, and was mainly due to a fall of 1869 in the suits for arrears of rents. Relinquishments increased by 37 per cent. as compared with a decrease of 14 per cent. in Agra. Ejectment suits again appreciably increased. In general the continued rise was due to the same causes as last year—the desire of the landholders to take advantage of the favourable agricultural position and the growing vogue of *nazrana* brought about by increasing competition for land among tenants coupled with the restrictions of the Oudh law as to rents. In Unao where the increase was most marked the explanation is said to be found in the fear of the more ignorant zamindars that occupancy rights were about to be conferred in Oudh by law.

Rent court work.

55. The year opened with a pending file of 110,655 suits and applications in Agra to which were added 412,987 new institutions, the grand total for disposal being 523,642 or 30,407 less than in the previous year. Of these, 399,494 were disposed of, leaving a balance at the end of the year of 124,149.

In Oudh, the total of all cases for disposal was 99,901 as compared with 101,889 last year, of which 97,618 were disposed of, leaving a balance of 2,283 as compared with the opening balance of 1,971. Appeals to Collectors under the Agra Tenancy Act again fell from 4,734 to 4,605. In Oudh under the Rent Act they fell from 1,264 to 1,101; in Kumaun from 50 to 26. Appeals to Commissioners were 7,984 as compared with 8,623—a fall of 7 per cent. Appeals to Judges were 1,872, or 13·6 of the total appealable as compared with 2,172, or 13 per cent. last year. The percentage of appeals to Judges and Collectors which were completely unsuccessful was 60 and 56 as against 61 and 57 in the previous year. Thirty-five honorary assistant collectors disposed of 15,017 cases as compared with 19,303 in 1916-17 and 31,095 in 1915-16. Hitherto honorary assistant collectors have been retired officials only and death or resignations owing to infirmity has caused the State to lose the services of several good workers. During the year the posts were thrown open also to suitable landed proprietors, lawyers and other gentlemen willing to undertake the work and a large number of new appointments were made towards the close of the year.

Mutation in revenue papers.

56. Changes of all kinds in proprietary rights recorded during the year totalled 220,344 as compared with 214,353 last year, a net increase of 5,991 which is small in view of the increased mortality of the year. Mutations of all kinds under orders of courts decreased by 9 per cent. from 9,511 to 9,095; while sales of revenue-paying lands under orders of courts were 3,490 as compared with 3,747 last year. Mutations other than those due to orders of courts numbered 211,249—an increase of 6,407. The total

increase was due to an increase of 14 per cent. in successions and redemptions. Mutations of all other kinds decreased owing to the easier financial conditions of the year; while the rise in successions was due to the heavier mortality. There were decreases in 10 districts but these were purely nominal in 6 and were noticeable only in Saharanpur, Hamirpur, Naini Tal, and Basti. In the first three of these there had been abnormal increases in the previous year, while in Basti the decrease is said to be due to the patwaris being engaged at the settlement office.

Partition cases.

57. The partition work of the year was less than that in the previous year, the total number of applications for disposal being 8,970 as compared with 9,299. There was again a fall in the number of cases disposed of from 3,723 to 3,419. The balance at the end of the year was 5,551. The decrease in the number of cases disposed of was general and due, it would seem, largely to the pre-occupation of the people with the recruiting and war loan campaign of the year, but possibly also in part to the discouragement by the Board of Revenue of excessive sub-division of land.

CHAPTER III.—PROTECTION.

18—Legislative authority.

58. There are no changes to be recorded under this head.

19—Course of Legislation.

59. The following Bills were dealt with during the year from 1st April, 1918 to 31st March, 1919 :—

(1) The United Provinces Excise (Amendment) Bill, 1918.
(2) The Gorakhpur Goraits Bill, 1918.
(3) The Co-operative Societies (Amendment) Bill, 1918.
(4) The United Provinces Public Gambling (Amendment) Bill, 1918.
(5) The United Provinces Municipalities (Amendment) Bill, 1918.
(6) The United Provinces Primary Education Bill, 1918.
(7) The United Provinces Municipalities (Amendment) Bill, 1919.

The United Provinces Excise (Amendment) Bill, 1918, was introduced into the Council on the 24th July, 1918. It was referred to a select committee on the 28th October, 1918. The report of the select committee was presented on the 24th January, 1919. The Bill was taken into consideration and passed into Law on the 4th March, 1919. It is now Act IV of 1919.

The Gorakhpur Goraits Bill, 1918, was introduced into the Council and referred to a select committee on the 24th July, 1918. The report of the select committee was presented on the 28th October, 1918. The Bill was taken into consideration and passed into Law on the 16th December, 1918. It is now Act I of 1919.

The Co-operative Societies (Amendment) Bill, 1918, was introduced into the Council and referred to a select committee on the 28th October, 1918. The report of the select committee was presented on the 24th January, 1919. The Bill was taken into consideration and passed into Law on the 4th March, 1919. It is now Act III of 1919.

The United Provinces Public Gambling (Amendment) Bill, 1918, was introduced into the Council on the 28th October, 1918, and referred to a select committee on the 16th December, 1918. The report of the select committee was presented on the 4th March, 1919. The Bill was taken into consideration and passed into Law on the 13th March, 1919. It is now Act V of 1919.

The United Provinces Municipalities (Amendment) Bill, 1918, was introduced into the Council and referred to a select committee on the 16th December, 1918. The report of the select committee was presented on the 4th March, 1919. The Bill was taken into consideration and passed into Law on the 13th March, 1919. It is now Act VI of 1919.

The United Provinces Primary Education Bill, 1918, was introduced into the Council and referred to a select committee on the 16th December, 1918. The report of the select committee was presented on the 4th March, 1919. The Bill was taken into consideration and passed into Law on the 13th March, 1919. It is now Act VII of 1919.

The United Provinces Municipalities (Amendment) Bill, 1919, was introduced into the Council and referred to a select committee on the 24th January, 1919. The report of the select committee was presented on the 4th March, 1919. The Bill was taken into consideration and passed into Law on the 4th March, 1919. It is now Act II of 1919.

20—Police.

(For details see the annual report on the administration of the Police department for the year ending 31st December, 1918, and the tables under the head "Police" in Part VI—Statistics of British India.)

Crime statistics.

60. The criminal statistics of the year were affected very seriously by the adverse agricultural conditions which prevailed owing to the failure of the monsoon. This, together with the unsettlement resulting from the war, resulted in a large increase in the number of serious offences against persons and property. There was however, a decrease which it is difficult to explain, in minor offences against property. The total number of cognizable cases, including those reported to Magistrates, was 162,283—an increase of 7,430. The figure for 1917 was, however, the lowest on record for over twenty years and even the figure for 1918 is lower than that of any other year since 1912. The year was one of peculiar difficulty. The ranks of the force were further depleted by recruitment for the Police Battalions and numerous resignations of which the cause was primarily economic. That it was able in such circumstances to maintain its efficiency and grapple successfully with the novel problems of the year is a matter for satisfaction. The pay and position of the force itself was much the same as noted last year. The pay of the Imperial Service officers was revised and orders regarding the revision of pay of the gazetted officers of the Provincial Police Service have been recently received. The pay of police constables was raised from the beginning of the year and a temporary allowance was also sanctioned for all constables of the armed police. It is admitted however, that the present rates do not represent a final judgement on the question and a Special Committee is now considering the whole question of the requirements of the force, including chaukidars.

Investigation.

61. The percentage of convictions to cases investigated fell from 38·8 to 37·2. This slight decrease is due to the increase in the number of cases investigated which has been a noticeable feature for the last ten years. There is no reason to think that it is an indication that the police have lost ground. Since 1914 there has been a distinct rise in the proportion of convictions to reports and on the average considerably less than one case in every five sent up for trial has broken down in court. Investigation was refused in 20·01 per cent of the crimes reported as compared with 20·8 per cent. in 1917. It may be noted that while in 1909 the total number of cases reported was 165,360 and investigations numbered 80,782, in the present year, though the reported crimes totalled only 162,283, the number of investigations rose to 121,574. Those who attach little importance to this increase in the number of investigations are supported by the fact that the number of cases sent up for trial has remained almost constant.

Coin, stamps, and notes.

62. The number of true cases relating to coin, stamps, and notes fell from 75 to 67; of these, 51 were disposed of during the year, 43 ending in conviction.

Murder.

63. Excluding false cases and cases in which murderers committed suicide the number of murders reported was 818 compared with 710 in the preceding year. This is the highest figure on record and is attributed to the somewhat lawless spirit and disregard of life engendered by the War. No less than 155 murders were committed by dacoits. Convictions were obtained in 283 cases out of 382, the percentage being 74 as compared with 73 in 1917.

There were again 18 cases of the murder of infants by their mothers, in most of which the Local Government reduced the sentences imposed. The most important cases of the year were the Katarpur Riot case and a political murder at Lucknow which resulted in the conviction of a ring-leader of the Bengal revolutionary party for the murder of a fellow conspirator. There were also two cases of human sacrifice.

Poisoning.

64. The number of poisoning cases for disposal rose from 64 to 79. The ratio of cases convicted to reported rose from 19 to 30 and that of cases convicted to disposed of from 60 to 83 per cent.—higher figures than have been reached for many years. The increase was in cases reported to the railway police, most of which appear to have been the work of professionals, and in cases instituted on complaints to Magistrates.

Dacoities.

65. The most disquieting feature of the year was the large increase in the number of dacoities which rose to the unprecedented figure of 1,954. The total for 1917 was only 767. Numerous reasons are given for this serious rise. It is attributed in part to a wave of unrest caused by high prices, uncertainty regarding the result of the War, a general impression among the lower classes that the Government was practically bankrupt, a widespread belief among the most turbulent sections of the community that Government was so engrossed in the War that the reins of control had been loosened, and in part to the failure of the rains and consequent shortage of food-grains. There can be little doubt, that the economic cause was the chief one. September and October, when it was becoming evident that the *kharif* would be a failure, were the months in which the situation was most serious. Other indications that the principal cause was economic may be found in the fact that in the Meerut division alone banias were the victims of 77 of the 202 dacoities reported; that local grain riots, which were technically dacoities, took place in several districts; that the majority of the road dacoities throughout the province were cases in which cloth merchants were stopped by footpads and relieved of their goods when returning from markets at dusk. The only districts which show no increase are Gorakhpur, Lucknow, Unao, and Fatehpur. The increase was quite abnormal in half the districts of the province. In most districts the leaders of gangs were known criminals, but their following consisted of hitherto law-abiding men who had never been suspected of criminal tendencies. Many of the dacoities are believed to have been the work of gangs from Indian States. Out of 188 dacoities, for instance in the Agra district, no less than 85 are attributed to such gangs and in Etawah gangs from Indian States are said to have been responsible for 23 dacoities. In Bahraich, Gonda, Basti, and other districts many of the dacoities reported are suspected to have been the work of gangs from Nepal. The number of cases sent up for trial rose from 199 to 559. The number which ended in conviction was 249 as compared with 162, but the figures do not represent the full measure of success met with, as there were many cases still pending trial or under investigation at the close of the year.

Robbery, burglary, and theft.

66. Having regard to the large increase in the number of dacoity cases it is not surprising to find an increase also in cases of robbery. The number rose from 805 to 999 and convictions from 169 to 243. The number of persons convicted rose from 271 to 439 and the percentage of cases convicted to disposed of was 86 compared with 80 for the previous year. These figures show distinct improvement in the work as a whole. The largest number of robberies occurred in Agra, Bulandshahr, Aligarh, Jhansi, Etawah, Sitapur, and Saharanpur. In Etah and Allahabad there was a marked drop in the number of cases reported. A large number of robberies are perpetrated on solitary travellers in village tracks and bypaths at an hour when identification is difficult and it is rather surprising that a larger number of cases do not go undetected.

The number of burglaries increased from 61,126 to 65,437. Bulandshahr, Budaun, Aligarh, Shahjahanpur, Azamgarh, and Ghazipur show the greatest increase. Results were much the same as in 1917, only 7 per cent of the cases reported ending in conviction. In dealing with cases of housebreaking the police are, and always have been remarkably unsuccessful and the best that can

be said is that there has been a marked decline in such offences during the last 20 years, which may safely be ascribed to better lighting and patrolling, to the operations instituted against criminal gangs and tribes, and to a more judicious use of the preventive sections of the Criminal Procedure Code.

The number of theft cases for disposal rose from 34,545 to 35,791. Several districts which return a large number of dacoities and burglaries show a falling off in thefts and it is quite likely that in these districts at least more than the usual proportion of petty thefts remained unreported. Owing to restricted sowings, moreover, thefts of agricultural produce decreased very considerably. Out of 7,137 cases tried 6,412 ended in conviction. Bulandshahr showed the greatest increase in the number of thefts but the largest number occurred in Gorakhpur, Budaun, Cawnpore, Bareilly, and Lucknow.

Cattle theft.

67. There was a slight increase in the number of cases of cattle theft from 4,472 to 4,495. In 1916, the number was 4,827. Of the 1,204 cases tried to a conclusion, 1,050 ended in conviction. There can be no doubt that professional cattle-thieving is far less common in the province than it was 30 years ago and the police are entitled to claim part of the credit for that improvement; at the same time it must be admitted that the figures are not altogether a true guide, as the larger proportion of the unrecovered cattle shown as "strayed" must undoubtedly have been stolen, and, according to general repute, cattle-lifting in the western parts of the province with the object of levying blackmail is a common pastime of professional cattle thieves, though the police but seldom receive any information of such incidents.

Criminal tribes.

68. The year opened with a total registered population of 25,732. By the close of the year the number had fallen to 25,558, the fall being due partly to a considerable number being struck off the registers as no longer addicted to crime and partly to the influenza epidemic which caused expunctions on account of death to exceed new registrations. No new settlements were opened during the year. There was an increase in the number of absconders and, owing to the rise in the cost of materials and the failure of the monsoon, great difficulties were experienced in providing regular employment and a living wage. Something was done towards proclaiming the mixed gangs and action was also taken during the year for the proclamation and registration of several domiciled tribes, such as the Haburahs and Sansiahs, who have hitherto been treated on the same footing as wandering gangs. The experiences of the past years have shown that if the reclamation of criminal tribes is to be of a permanent nature, more profitable forms of industry must be provided in the settlements, better arrangements must be made for preventing settlers from absconding at will and an intra-mural form of settlement must be introduced for the accommodation of absconders who laugh at any form of restraint short of bars and locks.

Surveillance.

69. At the close of 1917 the number of persons whose history sheets were maintained was 47,171. During 1918 a large reduction was effected under the new rules for surveillance introduced during the year and at the end of the year only 15,833 history sheets remained in current use, while the number of persons on the surveillance register had fallen from 26,246 to 9,014. The new system of surveillance has been in force too short a time to justify any definite statement at present as to its merits.

Finger Print Bureau.

70. Slips received for record at Finger Print Bureau declined by more than 2,000 and the elimination of unnecessary slips resulted in a further fall of the total number on record. Three hundred and seven absconders were traced, of whom 289 were wanted under the Criminal Tribes Act. Experts gave oral evidence in 188 cases and 433 written opinions were also furnished. Though the special work in connection with the registration of members of criminal tribes has decreased, the total volume of work in the Bureau is still very great.

Absconded offenders.

71. The year opened with 3,088 names on the register; 1,015 were added during the year and 975 were expunged, leaving 3,128 at the close.

Co-operation with Indian States.

72. Relations with officials of the neighbouring Indian States continued to be cordial everywhere and much assistance was received from them.

Village headmen and chaukidars.

73. The number of village headmen increased from 98,655 to 100,367, but the number of reports by them decreased from 2,758 to 2,479. Too much reliance, however, should not be placed on these last figures as it is the general custom for the village headman to be consulted before a case is reported at a police station. In several districts headmen are reported to have rendered conspicuous service against dacoits. Generally speaking it is agreed that they give a certain amount of assistance to the police though conditions vary largely in different parts of the province. The village chaukidar is also generally regarded as a valuable asset though his value is discounted by the low rate of pay which he receives and the fact that he usually belongs to one of the lowest classes of village communities.

Strength and cost of the police.

74. The strength of the regular police was increased by 42 Deputy Superintendents (one permanent and 41 temporary appointments to replace gazetted officers going on military duty), four inspectors (temporary), three sergeants and one constable, and was decreased by five head-constables. The total cost of the force, exoluding railway police, rose from Rs. 93·22 lakhs to Rs. 97·37 lakhs, the rise being chiefly due to the revision of pay and the high price of clothing. Resignations increased from 1,804 to 2,332 and desertions from 132 to 215. The increase in the number of resignations is attributed to the rumours which set in on the formation of the police battalions that conscription would be resorted to and the men sent into the fighting line immediately. Other factors which have to be taken into account, however, are the recall of older men to their villages to look after the families of their relatives who had taken military service and the superior attractions of service in labour corps.

Punishments.

75. Twenty-four officers and 308 men were dismissed and 94 officers and 471 men were otherwise punished. These figures show a considerable decrease as a whole when compared with the figures for 1917.

Armed and mounted force.

76. It was noted in last year's report that over 9 per cent. of the armed police had resigned during 1917. In 1918, the percentage rose to over 11 per cent.—692 men in all. But for the fact that a special war allowance of Rs. 2 was granted to members of this branch, it would have ceased to exist for all practical purposes after recruitment for the police battalions had been completed. Even after that allowance had been sanctioned, the only method by which this branch could be kept up to anything approaching full strength was by temporarily transferring members of the civil police to it for three months at a time. Owing to the absence of many of the best instructors with the police battalions, training suffered to a very considerable extent. Since the close of the year the situation has somewhat improved with the demobilization of the police battalions. The mounted police force remained 10 per cent. below strength throughout the year and no improvement could be expected in the position as regards this branch. Owing to the rise in price of grain and grass the special temporary allowances for the upkeep of remounts which was sanctioned in the previous year had to be further increased.

Railway police.

77. There was a very considerable increase in crime on railways which is mainly attributable to scarcity and abnormal conditions. The ratio of convictions to investigations fell from 20·58 to 15·40, which is unsatisfactory. Four cases of murder and 21 cases of dacoity were reported. Of the dacoities, 10 were attacks on railway stations by organised gangs. Both robberies and cases of poisoning increased considerably. Most of the robberies are said to have been the work of Indian soldiers and were of but little importance. Thefts from goods-sheds and yards, which represent one-fifth of the total, almost doubled. An improvement in the lighting arrangements of the large railway yards, the employment of more trustworthy watchmen, and better supervision would result in a material reduction. The question of strengthening the force is now under consideration.

Railway accidents.

78. Only one serious collision occurred which resulted in loss of life, a passenger train colliding with an empty goods train. There was also one serious case of obstruction—the work of a lunatic.

Rural police.

79. There was a decrease in the number of chaukidars rewarded from 16,504 to 12,867 and an increase in the amount distributed in

rewards from Rs. 28,446 to Rs. 31,558. This is satisfactory as showing that the tendency to distribute rewards in small doles to large numbers is now less marked.

Training school.

80. The Police training school was closed in June owing to depletion of the staff and the fact that the buildings were required for the accommodation of one of the police battalions. Before the school closed an examination was held at which 156 students appeared, of whom 152 passed.

Criminal Investigation Department.

81. Enquiries undertaken by officers of the Criminal Investigation Department numbered 81 compared with 99 in the previous year. Twenty-five were still under investigation at the close. The department was handicapped by the transfer on promotion of many of its ablest officers and less prosecuting work was done than in previous years. Cases investigated included a series of deaths by poison in two districts, several cases of theft of Government currency notes, a very sensational case of wholesale embezzlement, commonly known as the "Rechabite embezzlement case" and some cases of forgery. There was a marked decrease in the circulation of counterfeit coins which is attributed to the fact that paper currency had largely replaced coin. The two most important enquiries of the year by the special branch were in regard to the political murder at Lucknow already referred to and the Mainpuri conspiracy case. The security of two newspapers was forfeited under the Press Act and 13 other newspapers received formal warnings for various reasons.

Buildings.

82. Once again there was a marked reduction in the building programme owing to various causes all more or less connected with the War. Provision had been made for over three lakhs of rupees for original works, but the actual expenditure only totalled Rs. 1·75 lakhs. Only two new police stations and eight outposts were built during the year but married quarters and other improvements were added to a certain number of existing police stations. The necessity for new and better buildings continues to be as urgent as ever. A detailed programme is now being worked out in consultation with the Public Works department for the expenditure of a sum of Rs. 50 lakhs, but it is anticipated that it will be impossible to complete all the projects included in it within a shorter period than five years.

21—Criminal Justice.

(For details see the annual reports on Criminal Justice for the year ending 31st December, 1918, and the tables under the head "Criminal Justice" in Part VI—Statistics of British India.)

AGRA.

General.

83. The total number of sessions divisions remained at 18, the creation of the Bulandshahr division being still deferred for financial reasons. Temporary additional sessions judges worked in three districts. Subordinate judges were invested with the powers of assistant sessions judges from time to time, according as opportunity occurred or need arose.

Number of trials.

84. There was a considerable fall in the number of offences reported under the Penal Code, the figures being 100,714 as against 106,639 in 1917, and the number of cases returned as true also fell from 74,961 to 72,924. The number of cases brought to trial dropped from 66,858 to 63,767, and the number of persons who came under trial from 155,134 to 148,154. Offences against the public tranquillity, such as rioting and unlawful assembly decreased, as did also offences of perjury and against public justice, and hurt cases. On the other hand notwithstanding that offences against the person and against property on the whole declined there was a disquieting increase in theft, robbery, and dacoity cases, the explanation of which is largely to be found in the unfavourable agricultural and economic conditions that prevailed during the year.

For the second year in succession a decrease is to be recorded in the figures for offences reported under special and local laws—from 64,114 to 62,010. The number of persons brought to trial was less by 2,166 and convictions obtained decreased by 2,373. The explanation of this decrease is still doubtful; it is suggested that it may be found in the decrease in Government and

municipal staff during the War leading to fewer prosecutions; or, possibly, to laxer administration on the part of municipalities. Figures under the Municipalities Act show a slight fall, while there was a large increase from 3,173 to 4,890 in the number of persons brought to trial under laws relating to military cantonments. Gambling prosecutions were rather fewer, but a larger number of persons was implicated. The Hackney and Stage Carriages Act was much more extensively employed than in the previous year. There were again fewer prosecutions under the Act for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. The Sanitation Act was employed on little more than half the occasions found requisite in the previous year. The Workmen's Breach of Contract Act, on the other hand, shows a further rise in prosecutions and year by year more recourse is being had to its provisions in certain industrial centres. The percentage of persons convicted to persons under trial rose from 42 to 43 in Magistrates' courts but fell from 71 to 68 in courts of session. The percentage of cases dismissed under section 203 of the Criminal Procedure Code dropped from 21 to 20 and the improvement noticed in 1917 in respect of action taken under section 250 of the Code was also not maintained, the number of persons fined for making frivolous or vexatious complaints falling from 499 to 403.

Duration of trials.

85. The average duration of cases in all courts again stood at 10 days. The variation between the different courts and different districts was, as usual, very marked. While the average for stipendiary special magistrates was only 5 days and that for other stipendiary magistrates 13, the average for district magistrates dropped from 19 days to 12, while for courts of session it remained at 39.

Punishments.

86. One hundred and twenty-eight persons were sentenced to death by sessions courts as compared with 136 in the previous year. Of these, 81 sentences were confirmed by the High Court, 21 persons were released, 12 obtained modification of sentence, one retrial was ordered, and the cases of the remaining 13 were not disposed of during the year. The number of persons sentenced to transportation for life rose from 400 to 456. In 1916 the number was only 264. The total number of persons sentenced to rigorous imprisonment rose from 18,681 to 18,804, the period of imprisonment exceeding seven years in 329 cases as against 287 in 1917 and 190 in 1916. Whippings rose from 1,695 to 2,181, 173 of the persons sentenced being juveniles.

Appeals and revisions.

87. The number of appellants fell from 18,369 to 17,746 and the number of applicants for revision from 4,153 to 3,375. In 7,818 cases the appeal or application was rejected; in 9,504 the sentence or order was confirmed and in 51 the sentence was enhanced. Proceedings were quashed in 226 cases and 565 were remanded for a fresh trial or further enquiry. The percentage of totally unsuccessful appellants and applicants for revision rose from 70 to 74.

OUDH.

Number of trials.

88. There was a slight decrease in the total volume of crime, the aggregate number of offences committed being 52,388 as compared with 52,624 in 1917. The number of cases returned as true and those brought to trial increased slightly. There was an increase in the offences relating to property and a decrease in the other classes of serious crime, notably offences causing hurt, criminal force or assault, criminal trespass, mischief, defamation and offences relating to marriage. The year was the lightest one since the beginning of the War in respect of offences under the Indian Penal Code, but the heaviest as regards offences under other Acts. There was an appreciable increase in the offences relating to municipalities, security for good behaviour, excise, Stage Carriages, and Criminal Tribes. The number of accused under trial was 81,204, of whom 30,469 were convicted, the corresponding figures for the previous year being 85,736 and 28,476.

Duration of trials.

89. The average duration of trials was 10·81 days in magisterial and 42·2 in sessions courts as compared with 9·73 and 38·33 in 1917.

Punishments.

90. Ninety-one persons were sentenced to capital punishment as against 58 in 1917. Sentences of transportation increased from 50 to

164 and sentences of whipping by 56 from 500 to 556. The number of persons sentenced to rigorous imprisonment and fine was 5,854 and 20,773 as against Rs. 5,480 and 19,523 last year.

Appeals and revisions.

91. The total number of appellants and applicants for revision was 5,237 as against 5,383 in 1917. One thousand three hundred and eighty-two appeals or applications were rejected; in 3,153 the sentences were upheld and in 48 they were enhanced. In 475 cases the lower court's order was modified and in 739 the finding was reversed. Proceedings were quashed in 16 cases, while a new trial or further enquiry was ordered in 185 as compared with 24 and 182 respectively in 1917.

22—Prisons.

(For details see the annual report on the Jail department for the year ending the 31st December, 1918, and the tables under the head "Jails" in Part VI—Statistics of British India.)

General.

92. The year opened with a total of 24,175 prisoners of all classes. During the year 100,451 were admitted and 94,295 discharged, leaving 30,331 in confinement at the end of the year. The daily average number of prisoners of all classes was 26,184 as compared with 24,229 in the previous year. The increase in the jail population occurred chiefly in the latter half of the year, the rise being rapid from July onwards. One thousand four hundred and ninety-seven civil prisoners were received during the year, or 880 less than in 1917. The balance of 77 at the end of the year includes a certain number of aliens. Forty prisoners were released on account of sickness as compared with 34 in 1917 and 1,097 on other grounds—a decrease of 2,534 on the previous year when a large number were sent away on war service. Since the beginning of the war 3,819 prisoners who volunteered for service with jail labour corps have been conditionally released and sent to Mesopotamia. Arrangements are being made to proceed with the long over-due project for the extension of the Juvenile Jail at Bareilly. The enlargement of other jails is very urgent and will shortly be taken in hand. The work of several European officers on military duty has been carried on satisfactorily in several of the central jails by Indian officials. The work of the staff, both Europeans and Indians, was satisfactory under particularly trying conditions.

Punishments.

93. The number of jail offences so serious as to necessitate trial by criminal courts fell from 26 to 16, of which 11 were in connection with escapes. The number of cases dealt with departmentally increased from 26,427 to 26,999. Of 27,015 punishments inflicted, 19,039 were minor and 7,960 major. There was a considerable decrease in offences connected with assaults, mutiny and escapes and in offences connected with other breaches of jail rules. Actual escapes numbered 18 with 9 recaptures. The number of floggings was 19, or 24 less than in the previous year.

Expenditure.

94. The total expenditure increased by nearly three lakhs of rupees from Rs. 17,54,604 to Rs. 20,41,193. This serious increase was due both to the rise in the number of prisoners and in the cost per head. The latter was Rs. 77-15, against Rs. 72-7, in 1917 and Rs. 69-10, in 1916, the increase again being due to high prices

Employment.

95. The total net cash profit earned by the jail factories during the year was Rs. 3,22,969, against Rs. 3,24,635 last year, or a decrease of Rs. 1,666. The decrease is partly due to the fact that almost all profitable industries were stopped in favour of making blankets for the Army department, but chiefly to the fact that Rs. 60,593 remained outstanding against the Military department at the end of the year and that there was a large stock of wool in hand. The profit though nominally slightly less was in reality much more than in 1917.

Health.

96. There was a very large increase in the death rate, which was 46·0 as compared with 13·2 per mille in 1917. Nearly 70 per cent of the total number of deaths were due to influenza and its complications. Plague, cholera, and relapsing fever also took a high toll. The year was singularly

unfortunate as regards epidemics, but otherwise the general health of prisioners was, on the whole, good.

Juvenile Jail at Bareilly.

97. One hundred and fifty-seven juveniles were sentenced to imprisonment during the year as compared with 134 last year. The daily average number of juvenile prisoners in the Juvenile Jail was 240 as against 232, the capacity of the jail. The treatment of habitual and other juvenile prisoners who are not eligible for admission to the Bareilly Juvenile Jail is at present unsatisfactory. The accommodation is insufficient and not specially adapted for the purpose, and the teaching staff requires strengthening. These difficulties will disappear almost entirely when the extension of the Bareilly Jail is completed.

23—Civil Justice.

(For details see the annual reports on Civil Justice for the year ending 31st December, 1918, and the tables under the head "Civil Justice" in Part VI—Statistics of British India.)

Agra.

Original suits.

98. There was a great drop in the total number of suits instituted, from 157,653 to 138,005. In munsifs' courts there was a decrease of nearly 2,000 suits; in subordinate judges' courts of over 100; but the main decrease occurred in the small cause courts, where 17,554 less suits than in the previous year were instituted. Both suits for immovable property and for money or movable property declined, but the drop in the latter was by far the greater, being a little over 17,000 as compared with a fall of 1,596 in suits for immovable property. Suits of smaller values decreased but there was little variation in the number of suits of larger values. The reason for the decrease is generally ascribed to bad agricultural conditions and the prevalence of epidemics; but it is also suggested that the feeling of insecurity which had led to instability of financial conditions and consequent litigation in the earlier period of the War had by now largely subsided. The total number of suits before the courts fell from 187,154 to 167,232 and disposals from 162,787 to 142,546. The pending file rose by 319.

Appeals.

99. Appeals rose from 11,730 to 12,658, the increase occurring almost solely in Subordinate Judge's courts. The pending file decreased from 4,204 to 3,918.

High Court.

100. Appeals before the High Court rose from 5,219 to 5,234 and the pending file from 2,942 to 3,308.

Applications for execution of decrees.

101. Applications instituted for execution of decrees fell from 153,918 to 138,556, a decrease of 15,362. This was only to be expected in view of the decrease in suit institutions. The number of disposals fell by 12,834 and the pending file by 2,564. The percentage of fructuous applications fell from 49 to 48.

Village and honorary munsifs.

102. The total number of village courts was 241, one less than in the previous year, and the number actually working fell from 182 to 173. The continued decrease in the number actually working was due to the fact that in the Gorakhpur district more than half the 80 circles again remained vacant, 10 village munsifs did no work, and only 27 courts were active. Institutions fell from 13,382 to 10,683 and disposals from 13,309 to 10,569. The pending file fell from 274 to 217. Honorary munsifs decided 5,125 cases as against 5,215 in 1917.

Oudh.

Suits.

103. The total number of suits instituted fell from 72,387 to 64,754, —a decrease of nearly 11 per cent. Suits for money or movable property decreased by 13 per cent., while those relating to immovable property increased by 33 per cent. The increase in the latter was due in a large measure to the institution of suits for the recovery of nazul land in the Rae Bareli and Lucknow judgeships. There has been a steady increase of suits relating to immovable property since 1915. Disposals fell from 75,465 to 67,517 and the pending file was reduced from 11,003 to 10,648. In spite of the fall of institutions, the total value of suits instituted was higher than that of the last five years.

Appeals.

104. The total number of appeals before the courts was 3,701 as against 3,830 last year, of which 2,448 against 2,750 were disposed of. The pending file increased by 173.

Judicial Commissioner's court.

105. The number of regular appeals for disposal in the Judicial Commissioner's court rose from 719 to 1,169, an increase of about 62 per cent. Disposals declined from 672 to 629 and the pending file decreased from 555 to 540.

Applications for execution of decrees.

106. The number of applications before the courts for the execution of decrees fell from 71,585 to 67,687, of which 59,589 were disposed of, the pending file at the close of the year being 8,098 against 9,275. The applications wholly infructuous were 32,773 as against 32,987 last year.

Village and honorary munsifs

107. Village courts decreased from 99 to 92. Institutions fell from 6,401 to 5,663 and disposals from 6,284 to 5,614 or 11 per cent. The number of honorary munsifs increased from 29 to 33, there being two new appointments in the Rae Bareli district: one in Partabgarh and one in Sitapur. Decisions rose from 4,486 to 5,083,—an increase of 13·31 per cent.

KUMAUN.

Suits.

108. In Kumaun, the number of civil suits instituted fell from 6,553 to 5,577. Almora was responsible for over half of this decrease, which was due partly to scarcity, partly to influenza and, to some extent, to recruiting and absence of men from their homes. The value of suits decreased from 7·28 to 5·97 lakhs of rupees and the total number of suits for disposal fell from 7,496 to 6,375. The pending file rose from 772 to 778.

Appeals.

109. The number of appeals from decrees rose from 285 to 307. Forty-five were pending at the close of the year, including 14 in the Commissioner's court.

Execution of decrees.

110. Applications for execution of decrees fell from 3,965 to 3,529, of which 452 remained pending at the close of the year as compared with 559 in the previous year. Complete or partial satisfaction was obtained in 43 per cent. of the applications disposed of.

24—Registration.

(For details see the report on Registration for the year ending 31st December, 1918, and the tables under the head "Registration" in Part VI—Statistics of British India.)

Registration.

111. The total number of all documents registered decreased from 280,682 to 257,226, the causes being the prevalence of high prices, the prolongation of the War, and the outbreak of influenza at the end of the year. The fall occurred in most classes of documents except "instruments of gift," "wills," and "written authorities to adopt."

Financial.

112. The total receipts were Rs. 7,16,907 against Rs. 7,46,315 in the preceding year. The decrease is due to the decrease in the number of documents, and also in the number of commissions issued, visits paid, inspection of books, and searches or applications for copies. The total expenditure decreased by Rs. 1,230 from Rs. 3,08,812 to Rs. 3,07,582.

Prosecutions.

113. There were three prosecutions under the Registration Act during the year. One conviction was obtained.

Inspections

114. Inspections increased from 449 to 453.

25—Municipal Administration.

(For details see the annual report on Municipal Administration and Finances for the year ending 31st March, 1919, and the tables under the head "Municipalities" in Part VIII—Statistics of British India.)

Constitution.

115. The total number of municipalities remained the same as in the previous year, viz., 83. There was no alteration in the number of members, but two vacancies of nominated ex-officio members were not filled. At the close of the year there was a general election under the system of triennial elections: in the larger municipalities many seats were keenly contested: and numerous changes in the personnel of the boards occurred. In many of the smaller municipalities, however, the elections aroused little or no enthusiasm and existing members were for the most part returned unopposed.

Chairmen. 116. The number of elected non-official chairmen rose from 60 to 62 by the election of non-official chairmen for the first time in the Azamgarh and Ballia boards. The Mirzapur board preferred to retain its official chairman.

Taxation 117. Under Act I of 1918 section 128 (XIII) of the Municipalities Act was amended to enable the Local Government to sanction the replacement of octroi by terminal taxation without reference to the Government of India.

Financial receipts. 118. The total municipal income excluding loans and advances increased from Rs. 103·92 to Rs 118·65 lakhs. After deducting Government contributions the net increase amounts to Rs. 14·30 lakhs. This increase is shared by all divisions and is a record for the province. Nearly half of it occurred under the head of 'Miscellaneous,' which includes the large receipts derived from the sale of cheap grain and salt. There was also a marked improvement in the income from municipal property and sources other than taxation, whilst the income from taxation increased by Rs. 3·39 lakhs. The incidence of taxation rose from Rs. 2-2-0 to Rs. 2-3-0 per head of population.

Octroi receipts. 119. Income from octroi was adversely affected by the general restrictions imposed on railway traffic and by the partial failure of the kharif crop: these facts explain decreases in octroi income in the Meerut and Jhansi divisions. Elsewhere the rise of the piece-goods and many other commodities inflated the income received from *ad-valorem* octroi duties and more than counterbalanced the effects of traffic difficulty and crop failure. All over the province the total receipts from octroi rose from Rs. 35·30 to Rs. 37·43 lakhs.

Receipts from taxes other than octroi 120. Taxes other than octroi, terminal tax and toll produced an increase in revenue of over Rs. 2 lakhs. All heads show an increase except the tax on professions and trades and the pilgrim tax. The principal increases were Rs. 1·21 lakhs from the water rate, Rs. 34,500 from the taxes on houses and lands, and Rs. 34,300 from tolls. There was a decline in receipts from the pilgrim tax at Benares and Hardwar due to the reduction of facilities for passenger traffic, but the receipts at Fyzabad remained practically the same. Receipts from the tax on professions and trades decreased by Rs. 7,000 despite an increase of Rs. 6,700 at Bareilly. There was a substantial rise of Rs. 13,000 in the tax on houses and lands at Allahabad as a result of the revision of assessment. Benares, Meerut, Moradabad, and Jaunpur also show substantial increases, but there was a serious decline at Agra. A busy season at Mussoorie and Naini Tal caused a large increase in the income from tolls at those places. A marked increase in the income from the tax on circumstances and property was chiefly due to the imposition of the tax for the first time at Bahraich and Sitapur and also to the revision of the tax at Ballia: while several other towns showed improved collections. There was a satisfactory increase of Rs. 1·21 lakhs in the receipts from water tax. Allahabad, Cawnpore, Benares, Muttra, Naini Tal, Jhansi, and Lucknow more than accounted for this increase and there was a considerable falling-off at Mussoorie and Agra.

Receipts from sources other than taxation. 121. The revenue from sources other than taxation and Government contributions shows a very large increase of Rs. 11·13 lakhs. Nearly two-thirds of this, however, is non-recurring and occurs mainly under the head 'Miscellaneous.' The subhead 'other items' rose from Rs. 4·76 to Rs. 11·30 lakhs, this increase being due chiefly to the opening of municipal salt and cheap grain shops. The realisations under special acts show an increase of Rs. 27,400, due mainly to the enhanced income from funds. Other important increases were under the head 'Sale of Water' (Rs. 1·19 lakhs), Interest on Investments (Rs. 91,000); Rents of Land, etc., (Rs. 50,000), Revenue from Markets and Slaughter Houses (Rs. 27,800); Sale Proceeds of Land (Rs. 27,700). The only substantial decrease is in the receipts from fairs. The large increase under the head 'Sale of Water' is satisfactory. Lucknow contributed over a third of the total amount; while Agra, Meerut, and Cawnpore also showed substantial increases. There was, however, a

corresponding rise in expenditure and only in the case of Cawnpore are the total receipts for water in excess of the expenditure including payments on account of loans. Grants.

122. Grants from Government amounted to Rs. 9·91 lakhs for general and Rs. 1·77 lakhs for educational purposes. Loans

123. The loans taken during the year totalled Rs. 95,000 as compared with Rs. 7·03 lakhs in the previous year. Rupees 7·05 lakhs were repaid as compared with Rs. 6·65 lakhs in 1917-18.

124. The total expenditure rose by Rs. 9·16 lakhs to Rs. 104·50 lakhs. The capital outlay on water-works decreased by Rs. 4·69 lakhs, chiefly in consequence of the difficulty in obtaining materials; whilst the opening of salt dépôts is responsible for an increase of Rs. 4·13 lakhs under the head 'Miscellaneous.' Excluding all such exceptional items the ordinary recurring expenditure increased by Rs. 9·35 lakhs, chiefly under Conservancy, (Rs. 1·94 lakhs), Roads, (Rs. 1·22 lakhs), Other sanitary requirements, (Rs.1·11 lakhs), Water-works establishment, (Rs. 65,000), Refunds (Rs. 54,000) and Lighting (Rs. 49,000). The large increase of Rs. 1·94 lakhs in conservancy charges is chiefly due to high prices of fodder and other materials and to the grant for scarcity allowances to the staff. Practically all municipalities show an increase under this head, the only board where the decrease was substantial being Fatehgarh. The increased expenditure on roads does not indicate any general improvement in their condition as the increase is more than accounted for by the high prices of materials. Expenditure.

125. As noted above, there was again a large decrease in capital outlay on water-works. At Agra the re-organization of the distribution has been successfully completed and the reservoirs are nearly complete, but there has been serious delay in the provision of new pumping sets. Two more tube wells have been made at Allahabad. Water-works.

126. The increased expenditure on "Other sanitary requirements" was due chiefly to increased charges at Cawnpore, where Rs. 1·24 lakhs was spent. The work on the Kydganj drainage scheme at Allahabad is now in progress as are also the drainage operations at Dehra Dun, Mussoorie, and Almora. Large drainage schemes for Agra, Cawnpore, Lucknow, and Bareilly are in hand. Drainage.

127. The expenditure on lighting rose from Rs. 6·62 lakhs to Rs. 7·11 lakhs. This increase was chiefly due to the high prices of lighting accessories including kerosine oil and chimneys and also to the grant of compensation allowance to the staff. The scheme for the installation of electric light in Cawnpore has been completed and the progress made in the electric lighting of the main throughfares at Allahabad is satisfactory. Lighting.

128. The expenditure under education decreased slightly, chiefly owing to reduced expenditure on the erection and repairs of school buildings. Primary schools for boys increased by 41 and aided schools by 10. Girls' schools rose by 19. The United Provinces Primary Education Act, which was passed during the year, provides for the introduction of compulsory and free primary education in the whole or any part of municipal area on the application of the board to Government. The success of the scheme will naturally depend largely on the board's ability to bear their share of the expenditure involved. Education.

129. Vaccination work continues to improve. The total number of persons vaccinated in the municipalities was 127,499 as compared with 121,092 in 1917-18. Successful primary vaccinations and successful re-vaccinations numbered 88,681 and 17,586 as compared with 105,751 and 7,006 respectively in the preceding year. Ghaziabad, Ghazipur, Naini Tal, Jaunpur, and Hapur are the best protected municipalities, and Mainpuri, Bijnor, Farrukhabad-cum-Fatehgarh, Brindraban, and Dehra Dun the worst protected. Vaccination.

130. The average birth-rate sank from 47·92 per mille in the former year to 41·75. The former was a record figure: the latter has only been exceeded eight times in 38 years and is not abnormal. The influenza epidemic and other diseases raised the death-rate from 47·13 per mille to Vital statistics.

80·94 and as a result of the general unhealthiness of the year the infantile mortality reached the appalling figure of 367·52 per mille.

General. 131. The remark made in last year's report that on several boards the spirit of faction still prevails with serious effects on municipal administration still unhappily applies and laxity in enforcing collection of taxes and observance of byelaws is a weakness all too common. The necessity for increasing revenue before contemplating fresh expenditure is not as well appreciated as it might be. But the finances of most boards are in a satisfactory condition and the great majority of boards, though they may have rendered themselves liable to criticism in particular matters, have carried out their duties with energy and public spirit.

26—District Boards.

(For details see the annual report on the working of district boards for the year ending 31st March, 1919, and the tables under the heads "Local Boards" in Part VIII—Statistics of British India.)

Income. 132. The aggregate opening balance of the boards amounted to Rs. 42·68 lakhs against Rs. 76·53 lakhs in the previous year. Excluding this and advances and deposits the income rose from Rs. 1,14,80,514 to Rs. 1,34,94,616. This substantial increase of over 20 lakhs is chiefly due to increases of Rs. 9·50 lakhs under "Education," of Rs 7½ lakhs under "Miscellaneous," of nearly Rs. 2 lakhs under "Police," of nearly Rs. 1½ lakhs under "Interest," and of Rs. 66,000 under "Medical."

Expenditure. 133. The total expenditure increased from Rs. 1,10,06,491 to Rs. 1,15,96,823. The chief increases were Rs. 2·74 lakhs under "Education," Rs. 1·89 lakhs under "Medical," and Rs. 3·93 lakhs under "Miscellaneous," while there was a decrease of Rs. 2·93 lakhs under "Civil Works." The actual closing balance is shown as Rs. 40·52 lakhs, but the boards held in addition large sums invested in the war loan.

Education. 134. The number of boards' schools rose from 9,400 to 9,952, and of aided schools from 2,189 to 2,231, while the total number of scholars rose from 696,933 to 703,906. The increase of Rs. 2·74 lakhs in expenditure occurred under every subhead save one, but Primary Education alone accounted for an increase of 1¾ lakhs. The increase was due in part to the payment of scarcity allowances and to improved rates of salary. The year was most unfavourable for educational progress. The epidemic diseases which prevailed everywhere caused serious mortality amongst both teachers and scholars: schools had to be closed and the building of new schools was retarded. Scarcity also had its effect; all available labour was required in the fields and parents had to keep their children from school in consequence. During the year an important resolution was issued dealing with the future of primary education. Boards were directed to prepare a programme of expansion with the object of at least doubling, within a period of five years, the number of primary scholars, and if necessary the number of schools. In view, however, of the alteration that will probably take place in the constitution of the boards and their financial powers in the near future, the original proposals have since been modified to cover a period of three years instead of five. Endeavours are being made to co-ordinate the programme of the various boards, and to remedy deficiencies in the important matter of training teachers. The education of girls is still very backward: there are indications that the demand for female education is growing, but the teaching profession is not yet popular among women and until women take to that calling in much larger numbers than at present, progress will continue to be slow. The number of schools for depressed classes has increased, but so far they are not well-attended. It is satisfactory, however, that members of these classes are found in considerable numbers in ordinary schools.

Medical. 135. An increased expenditure of nearly two lakhs of rupees under the head of Medical is due partly to scarcity allowances, partly to the rise

in the price of and the greater demand for medicines—the last as a result of the epidemic of influenza—partly to increased sanitation and plague charges.

Sanitation.

136. Expenditure on sanitation rose from Rs. 1·30 lakhs to Rs. 2·08 lakhs. The position as regards rural sanitation is still unsatisfactory. A good deal of money has been spent but some boards have not yet utilised fully grants made to them in 1916-17 ; the people themselves are apathetic or even hostile : and it is difficult to make any real progress.

Vaccination.

137. The returns for vaccination in section 52 of this report may be consulted.

Vital statistics.

138. Separate returns of vital statistics are not available, but those given in section 49 of this report may be consulted.

Arboriculture.

139. Arboriculture charges rose from Rs. 1·21 lakhs to Rs. 1·29 lakhs.

Civil works.

140. The continued decrease under the head of civil works is almost entirely confined to original building works and is due partly to the high price of and difficulty of obtaining material, partly to scarcity of labour, and partly to the fact that large sums were locked up in the war loan.

General.

141. While no important changes occurred and the activities of the boards were hampered by the conditions created by the War, by pestilence, and by famine, the record of the year may none the less be considered satisfactory. It is in fact a matter for congratulation that in view of the adverse conditions the boards have been able to do as much as they have done.

CHAPTER IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

27—Agriculture.

(For details see the annual reports on the administration of the department of Agriculture for the year ending 30th June, 1919, on the administration of the Civil Veterinary department for the year ending 31st March, 1919, and on the working of Co-operative Credit Societies for the year ending 30th June, 1919, the tables in the "Agricultural Statistics of India, volume I," and those under the head "Co-operative Credit Societies" in Part II—Statistics of British India.)

General.

142. The year was again one of preparation, rather than achievement, shortage of staff and the difficulty of obtaining machinery being still acutely felt. An increase of 28 members of the Subordinate Agricultural Service and 39 fieldmen was sanctioned, but all the posts have not yet been filled up. The engineering section has been strengthened and formed into a separate branch. Four district farms were opened at Mainpuri, Muzaffarnagar, Agra, and Bahraich. In the Muttra district land has been taken up for a farm to be worked in conjunction with the botanical areas at Cawnpore for trial of new cottons on a field scale. A small area of land has been leased in the Budaun district to demonstrate the growing of more valuable crops from a tube well and another small farm has been opened on the Dhasan canal in the Hamirpur district for growing improved wheats and cotton. The policy of opening a farm in each district is being steadily pursued. Experience has shown that the department makes little headway in a district without a resident staff and a central farm which awakens interest by showing new crops, better methods of cultivation, and improved implements. Once this interest is aroused, there is no great difficulty in inducing the more progressive zamindars and tenants to try the improvements on their land and to open demonstration farms of their own. It is hoped that several additional posts of deputy director will be sanctioned before long. As soon as a sufficient number of superior officers has been obtained the existing circles which are unwieldy in size will be broken up.

A Board of Agriculture was constituted by Government including representatives of the leading landlord associations and Chambers of Commerce, and heads of departments dealing with subjects allied to agriculture, such as Irrigation, Forestry, and Co-operation. Its functions are to act as advisor to Government and the Director of Agriculture in matters connected with the development of agriculture in the provinces. A sum of money has also been placed at its disposal to be devoted to this object. The Board held one meeting during the year under report.

Agricultural college.

143. The Agricultural College continues to expand. The number of new students at the opening of the session was 42, of whom 20 took up the diploma course and 22 the two-year course as compared with a total of 35 in the two courses last year. Six students passed out from the diploma course during the year, all of whom have since obtained employment, and 17 from the vernacular course. The College is still extremely shorthanded and it has not yet been found possible to obtain a Professor of Agriculture. The grant made by the Government of India for the development of higher agricultural education will be utilized by the addition of two new wings to the college building. A suitable site for the Agricultural school has been chosen at Bulandshahr. Delays, however, have occurred in its construction owing to the difficulty of procuring building material and it was not possible to open it during the year. It is expected that when the school is opened a certain proportion of the students of the two-year course at the College will be diverted to it, thus relieving the pressure on the College.

Research and demonstration.

144. This is the fourth year in succession in which the rains cotton crop has been a partial failure. The conditions of these four years mark out this crop as one of the most uncertain of crops and therefore one of the most difficult to improve. Cultivators not unnaturally take little interest in the improvement of a crop the harvest of which is so precarious: they have a natural preference for the hardiest types, irrespective of the quality of the lint, and for the cheapest possible methods of cultivation. The task before the Department therefore is to produce a cotton at least as hardy and heavy-yielding as the deshi, which will thrive on the cultivation given to a crop regarded as a pure gamble, and yet give a lint so appreciably better as to tempt the cultivator to substitute it for the existing types. In the circumstances of the year little progress in this direction could be made but one selected cotton from Bundelkhand has been well reported on and its suitabilty for other parts of the province is being tested. Research work on cotton which is sown on irrigation before the rains is more hopeful and some satisfactory results have been obtained.

The year was also one of the worst possible for sugarcane, but one or two points on the cultural side of the question have come prominently to notice. Experience of imported canes shows that selected varieties will do well in Upper India for the first few years, but then show an increasing susceptibility to disease, a constant renewal of stocks from the country of origin being thus necessitated. The effect of different soils and climatic conditions on the canes has also been shown to be very marked both among deshi and imported canes. The necessity for local differentiation greatly increases the amount of experimental work and renders experience gained in one part of the cane-growing tract of doubtful value for another.

The wheat crop is one of the most secure of those grown in the provinces and consequently one of the easiest to improve. The Pusa wheats are now rapidly spreading of themselves and the problem is no longer how to popularize them but how to maintain purity and demonstrate how they can be grown to the best advantage. The bulk of the cultivators who grow them have still to learn that their principal value lies in their high potentialities of yield under good cultivation, and that they have not done all that is necessary in substituting one variety for another. Demonstration is accordingly being given of the increased yield obtainable with proper tillage and manuring and private farms are giving great assistance in this task. Demonstration in respect of other crops also is being carried out on these lines. The department having begun with the distribution of

selected varieties and having shown that they give a higher yield is now trying to attack the larger problem of improved cultivation.

Distribution of seed.

145. There was a good demand for seed from the seed dépôts and in all 64,000 maunds were sold, exclusive of cane sets. The bulk of the seed consisted of Pusa wheat.

Sale of implements.

146. The supply of implements was uncertain and prices high. A grant has been made by the Board of Agriculture for the purchase of approved implements with a view to popularising their use among cultivators.

Manures.

147. Ten cake dépôts were opened last year at convenient centres for the sale of cake manures. There was a good sale at the beginning of the year to potato and cane-growers, but later on the price of castor cake rose rapidly and became prohibitive to the bulk of the growers. A comparatively cheap nitrogenous manure is essential for supplementing the supplies of farmyard manure in growing the more valuable crops, and the rise in price of all cakes is a serious hindrance to the efforts made to popularize the use of cake manures. The Director of Agriculture has suggested that an adequate substitute may be found in neem cake : the tree is one of the commonest in the provinces and the supply of seed cheap and abundant. A proposal has been put before the Board of Industries for working the seed.

Agricultural engineering.

148. This was the first year in which power pumping for irrigation was used on any considerable scale in a year of drought. A number of tube-wells and pumping installations had been put down since the last famine of 1913, and when the rains failed there was an urgent demand for divers and spare parts. The strainer tube wells introduced by the Agricultural Engineer are rapidly becoming popular and applications have been received in large numbers for installations : the difficulty of procuring boring plant and machinery has, however, made it impossible to comply with more than a limited number of such applications and there is now a waiting list of 500 names.

Well-boring.

149. The operations of the well-boring establishment which is employed on testing sites for new wells and improving existing wells were greatly hampered by scarcity and high prices of all forms of plant. In all 253 sites for new wells were tested and 67 existing wells bored, the supply being definitely increased in 487 cases.

Publications.

150. No bulletins were published during the year.

Civil Veterinary Department.

Education.

151. Seven students were selected for training in veterinary colleges as scholarship-holders ; of these three were sent to Bengal and four to the Punjab veterinary college. Most of the students undergoing courses passed their examinations. The United Provinces Veterinary Medical Society which was started by the members of the civil veterinary staff in 1912 is doing good work, chiefly by means of magic lantern demonstrations dealing with veterinary work and connected with live-stock generally. Demonstrations and lectures were given by members of the staff in some of the important fairs and shows.

Disease.

152. The reported mortality from various contagious diseases decreased from 17,407 to 16,233, out of which rinderpest accounted for 11,821. There was a substantial reduction in the death rate from haemorrhagic septicaemia, anthrax, blackquarter, foot and mouth disease, and surra. Of equine diseases 45 cases of glanders and farcy are reported, an increase of three on the previous year's figure. They occurred in the districts of Dehra Dun, Moradabad, Jaunpur, Naini Tal, and Gonda. Surra did not occur in such a severe form as last year : only 62 cases were reported. Two hundred and twenty-five cases of strangles and many cases of tetanus were reported. Of Bovine diseases rinderpest assumed a very virulent shape in the districts of Naini Tal, Bijnor, Budaun, Jalaun, Banda, and Hamirpur. Extra veterinary assistants were deputed where necessary and inoculations were carried out in 39 districts. Haemorrhagic septicaemia appeared in 32 districts and caused a total mortality of 1,029 as against 3,142 in the last year. Foot and mouth disease

was less severe and only 1,652 deaths are reported as compared with 2,854 last year. Deaths from blackquarter fever were 178 as compared with 3,114 last year. Inocculations decreased from 48,974 to 45,523 owing to the temporary suspension of the supply of the serum on account of the outbreak of influenza among the staff of the laboratory at Muktesar. Satisfactory work continues to be done in the investigation of disease. Hospitals and dispensaries increased from 83 to 88. The number of cases treated decreased from 101,487 to 101,381, the decrease being due partly to the influenza epidemic and partly to the closing of some dispensaries owing to the deputation of veterinary assistants to Military duty.

Breeding.

153. The number of stud bulls and buffaloes continues to increase, 286 being now maintained as against 266 last year and 193 the year before that. The public is gradually beginning to appreciate the scheme under which stud bulls are issued on loan and it is anticipated that during the next few years there will be a very large demand for them. The services of an expert Farms Manager have now been secured and his advice will be available in matters relating to improvement of stock, establishment of dairy farms, and management of cattle generally. The Kheri cattle farm increased its head of cattle but the number of bulls issued to districts for stud purposes was only 21 as compared with 93 last year, the issue having to be temporarily suspended on account of the fodder famine. The number of cattle at the Madhuri Kund farm remained much the same. Eighty-six animals produced at this farm have been issued up to the present. Both the Kheri and the Madhuri Kund farms are now getting into working order and with the appointment of the new Farms Manager great improvements are expected. The number of horse and pony stallions increased from 72 to 79, 66 were at work and coverings numbered 3,426 against 3,323 in the previous year. The progeny of the provincial stallions shows a continued improvement. Donkey stallions increased from 18 to 19, 15 were at work and coverings numbered 835 as against 698 last year. The sheep-breeding experiments undertaken during the last few years to improve the quality and quantity of the wool of the indigenous sheep continue to be very encouraging.

Establishment.

154. The strength of the subordinate establishment increased from 189 to 197. Owing to many of the veterinary assistants being at present employed under the Military department it is quite impossible to obtain the full number required, but it is hoped that the vacancies will be filled as soon as demobilization is completed. The cost of the department rose from Rs. 1,57,200 to Rs. 1,59,770—an increase of Rs. 2,570.

Co-operative Societies.

155. The adverse conditions of the year, the severe drought, influenza and other epidemic diseases, together with the very high prices which prevailed, all continued to make any substantial improvement in the economic condition of the people impossible. As compared with the preceding year the advances made to the primary societies were shorter by Rs. 11,393 and the collections by Rs. 3,21,912. As regards the latter, the causes were practically the same as in the last year and the drought and influenza added to the difficulties. The fall in advances is partly due to the fact that the taqavi advances made by the Government reduced the demand of members on their societies for loans, and partly to the greater care exercised by central banks in making advances in view of the large arrears outstanding with the societies. The number of societies rose from 3,086 to 3,402 and of members from 101,626 to 102,454; working capital rose from Rs. 113 to Rs. 116 lakhs. At the commencement of the year 302 liquidations were pending and 130 new cases were added during the year. Proceedings were completed in 71 cases only and the year closed with 361 cases pending. Measures to give special training to candidates for employment under the banks are in progress. As in the previous year, a special class was held for three months at Hardoi at which a large number of candidates were trained. Another class is to be opened this year where further improvement in the quality of the training will be aimed at.

Central societies.

156. Central societies at district headquarters, which finance all co-operative institutions in the district are known as district banks; those situated in the interior of the district with a limited area of operations are known as central banks. Two central banks were registered during the year and three more have been registered since the close of the year. No central banks were dissolved doing the year. The total working capital of the central societies has increased by ·27 lakh and the share capital by ·55 lakh of rupees, the reserve fund by Rs. 25,373 and exchange of loans between central banks by Rs. 37,244. Government loans decreased by Rs. 7,922 and deposits by Rs. 55,967. The increase in the working capital is due to an increase of business and though small is satisfactory when compared with the drop of Rs. 6·27 lakhs in the previous year. On the whole the financial position is satisfactory. The total profits increased from Rs. 1·60 to Rs. 2·16 lakhs. The increase is to a great extent due to large amounts having been brought forward from the previous year. During the year Rs. 3,44,804 was advanced to subordinate central banks and Rs. 17,71,049 to primary societies. Realizations amounted to Rs. 20,66,847 in principal and Rs. 4,16,907 in interest. The year closed with outstandings amounting to Rs. 40,19,376. Overdue loans amounted to Rs. 20·22 lakhs and postponed instalments to Rs. 1·83 lakhs as compared with Rs. 19·74 and Rs. ·41 lakh respectively in the previous year. The rise in arrears is mostly due to large arrears due from dissolved societies. It is hoped that the position will be considerably improved during the current year.

Rural societies.

157. The number of primary agricultural societies increased by 313 and their membership by 158, a very small rise, considering the increase in the number of societies. This is chiefly due to the fact that new societies are much smaller in size generally than those that were dissolved. The working capital increased by Rs. 3·29 lakhs and the share capital by Rs. 49,474. The increase in the latter was smaller than the previous year owing, as already explained, to the fact that a large portion of capital was lost with the dissolved societies and a considerable amount fell in arrears in tracts which were badly hit by drought and disease. The profits on the year's working amounted to Rs. 2,01,175 as compared with Rs. 2,00,358 in the previous year. There was no reduction in the rate of interest during the year. The amount due from the members of agricultural societies at the beginning of the year was Rs. 39,51,133. During the year Rs. 19,21,080 was advanced, as compared with Rs. 17,48,027 in the previous year, and the realizations amounted to Rs. 15,39,439 in principal and Rs. 4,06,893 in in interest against Rs. 18,99,539 and Rs. 5,16,068 of the year before. The arrears amounted to Rs. 23,83,131, or 59·5 per cent. of the outstandings and postponements have been given for another Rs. 89,088. Loans were largely given for the purchase of seed and bullocks, for maintenance, and for payment of rent.

Urban societies.

158. The number of non-agricultural societies increased from 152 to 154. Twelve were registered during the year, eight were dissolved, and two were transferred to the agricultural class. The societies consist chiefly of artizans, petty traders, clerks, and other employés, residing in one mohalla or belonging to one profession, business or trade. The number of members rose from 5,598 to 6,329; while the working capital declined from Rs. 4·81 to Rs. 4·65 lakhs. There were 12 limited liability societies, 10 non-credit societies, and 142 unlimited liability societies. Of the limited liability societies one was dissolved and four new ones registered during the year. Some are doing well but others do not possess much vitality. The condition of the unlimited liability societies generally has not appreciably improved. The Bangle Makers' Society at Firozabad has done well and so have also some of the societies of weavers and butchers but in others signs of apathy are apparent. The dissolution of three cattle insurance societies reduced the number of agricultural non-credit societies to 10. The insurance societies have not succeeded anywhere and the only society which now remains is in a moribund condition. The condition of Ghee societies is not very satisfactory but some of the Co-operative Dairies have made progress. The number of non-agricultural non-credit societies decreased from 10 to 9, of which 8 are distributive stores while the

ninth is the Garhwal Coolie Agency. The record of the stores is not very encouraging, while the position of the Coolie Agency is reported to be very unsatisfactory.

28—Weather and Crops.

(For details see the annual season and crop report for the year ending 30th June, 1919, the "Agricultural Statistics of British India," volume I, the "Area and yield of certain principal crops in India" and "Prices and Wages in India.")

Character of the season.

159. After four years of good and in some cases excessive rainfall another year of drought has to be recorded. The failure of the monsoon was one of the most complete for which any record exists. In June only the submontane districts and parts of the Benares division received sufficient rain for sowing, while in the Upper and Lower Doab and in Bundelkhand it barely sufficed for ploughing up the land. In July the last-mentioned tracts received only light showers but the eastern submontane districts and the Benares division were more fortunate, the intermittent showers sufficing to keep the crops sown alive. In the Meerut, Agra, and Allahabad divisions little more than an inch of rain was received as compared with a normal of 8 to 10 inches. In these tracts nothing could be sown outside the irrigated area. Over the provinces as a whole the break did not come to an end until the third week in August, when most districts had a well distributed rainfall. Much of the land that had been prepared was put under the late kharif crops, and had the September rains been normal, a fair kharif might, even under these conditions, have been reaped. The rainfall however practically ended by the second week of the month and most of the crops sown on the August rain died off. October and November were practically rainless and there was insufficient moisture in the soil for sowing the rabi without irrigation throughout the greater part of the Doab and Bundelkhand. The moisture was sufficient, generally speaking, for rabi sowing in part of the Benares, Gorakhpur, and Fyzabad divisions and in the tracts nearest the hills of the western submontane districts. There were some showers in the first week of December, but they were too light to be of much benefit to the crops. Sowings continued where possible, throughout this month in hopes of winter rains. Excellent rain fell towards the end of January. It was general and well distributed and came at a very critical time. It saved the unirrigated crop but was too late to ensure a good harvest. In the latter half of February more rain was received in the eastern districts and some of the western snbmontane. Throughout the Doab the falls were too light to be of much benefit to the crops. The influenza epidemic had a most serious effect on the energies of the cultivators in October and November which resulted in a great diminution in the area of early sown rabi crops, such as gram. The total rabi area was, chiefly for this reason, less than it had been in the famine year of 1914. The unirrigated crops which were mainly confined to the eastern and submontane districts never fully recovered from the long spell of dry weather during December and the greater part of January, and their outturn was below normal. The irrigated crops were promising in appearance, but the early days of March were marked by high temperatures and much of the grain was light and shrivelled.

The general result of the conditions summarized above was an almost complete failure of the kharif crop and a very small rabi area. One of the most serious results of the drought was the scarcity of fodder and pasturage. Very little grass had come up in the Doab before August. What came up then was quickly consumed and by the end of September the pasture lands were again bare. The fodder crops, juar and bajra, had failed except on irrigated land and bhusa of the previous rabi was scarce and dear. The despatch of hay from the Government forests was delayed by the influenza epidemic and the situation remained serious until rain fell in January. The harvesting of the rabi brought considerable relief and reduced the demands for Government hay.

160. The total cultivated area fell by nearly five million acres or 13·7 per cent. as compared with the previous year. In comparison with the normal there was a fall of slightly over 4,100,000 acres, or 11·8 per cent. It is noteworthy that the kharif showed a much smaller decline than the rabi, viz., 1,547,758 acres, or 7 per cent., while the rabi area fell by 7,958,032 acres, or 35 per cent. The kharif figures, however, include a large area on which the crop was a total or partial failure owing to the absence of September rains. In Bundelkhand and Gorakhpur there was an increase in the kharif area, but the Doab districts generally show a large decline. The cotton area was specially poor though a fair area was put down late in the season with welf irrigation. There was an increase of 4 per cent. as compared with the previous year in the area under sugarcane. Cultivated area.

For the great decline in the rabi area all crops were to a more or less extent responsible. The wheat area amounted only to five and a half million acres, as compared with six and one-third millions in 1913-14. The barley crop was also smaller, but the actual percentage of decrease was less. The secondary crops such as gram, linseed, and rapeseed all show a very marked decline. Compared with the previous year there was a falling-off of 57 per cent. in the gram area, of 81 per cent. in the linseed area, and of 39 per cent. in the area under rapeseed. To a very large extent these decreases were due to the inability of the cultivators to make use of existing sources of irrigation, owing to the severity of the influenza epidemic. This was very marked in those parts of the provinces in which kachcha wells are ordinarily sunk in years of drought.

161. As might be expected from the character of the year there was an increase in the total area irrigated, as compared with the previous season, the figures being 11,598 and 12,389 acres respectively. In all, the irrigated area amounted to 36 per cent. of the total cultivated. Of this, 23 per cent. was irrigated from wells, 9 per cent. from canals, and 4 per cent. from other sources. Compared, however, with 1913-14 there was some decline due to the influenza epidemic and consequent scarcity of labour There were 561,963 masonry wells in actual use, as compared with 524,771 in 1913-14. During the past few years well construction has been most actively carried on in Oudh in which province there was an increase in the area irrigated from wells of 148,653 acres as compared with 1913-14. In the Agra and Muttra districts where the water level is generally deep and well sinking is expensive and uncertain, there is an actual decline in the total number of wells in use. In some cases this may be attributed to the tendency of the water in certain areas to become more brackish after the well has been for some time in use. In the year under report 14,214 new wells were sunk as against 12,440 in the previous year. Irrigation.

162. The kharif outturn was naturally very poor and in the case of nearly all crops worse than in 1913. The only exception was the early rice which was a fair crop in the Gorakhpur, Benares, and Fyzabad divisions, but the total outturn in terms of a normal yield of 100 was only 60 as compared with 55 in 1913. Mandua, maize, and cotton yielded much poorer crops than in 1913; late rice, bajra, and sugarcane slightly worse, while the juar and til outturn was the same. Generally speaking most crops were a failure except on irrigated land. Outturn.

The rabi outturn was much better and the yield would probably not have fallen short of the normal, but for delay in sowing. Wheat, barley, gram, and linseed were all better crops than in 1914, the outturn being 85, 90, 75, and 80 respectively in terms of a normal yield of 100, as compared with 75, 75, 50, and 70 in 1914. These figures, however, do not take into account the area sown, and the shortage of this area was the serious feature of the 1914 rabi, not the outturn on the area sown.

163. Prices were already high at the beginning of the year; they continued to rise slightly in July and August; in September, when it became Prices.

apparent that the kharif would be a failure they jumped upward rapidly. From then until March there were no marked variations. When the rabi crop came on the market there was a drop in the prices of wheat and barley. A further rise in the prices of all food grains in May and June may be attributed to the general apprehensions regarding the monsoon, and in the case of juar and bajra to the keen demand for seed.

One of the distinguishing features of the year which marks it out from 1913-14 was the coincidence of bad seasons in other parts of India. On the former occasion distress had been less widespread and there had been no demand on these provinces for the coarser food grains. In the year under review, however, there was a demand from other provinces not only for wheat and gram, which form the ordinary articles of export, but also for the cheaper food grains, such as barley, juar, and bajra. The result was to raise the prices of such grains to an unprecedented height and as stocks decreased the prices of juar and bajra became actually higher than that of wheat. It was this feature together with the large exports from India for war purposes during the last few years which necessitated the establishment of control over distribution, and the fact that prices remained for the most part stable from October to March may be safely attributed to the measures taken by Goverment with this object.

The actual rise in the prices of the principal food grains during the year may be seen by comparing prices in June, 1918, with those in the same month in 1919. In June, 1918, wheat in the Cawnpore market stood at 8 seers to the rupee; in June, 1919 it was 5·25 seers; the corresponding figures for barley, gram, juar, and rice are 12, 11, 8·25, and 6·30 seers, as compared with 7·62, 5·50, 4·62, and 5 seers. Exports, especially of wheat, were heavy at the beginning of the year but afterwards dropped considerably. Altogether they were less than in 1917-18, but in excess of either 1915-16 or 1916-17. A large quantity of rice was imported.

29—Horticulture.

(*For details see the annual reports on the Horticulture Garden at Lucknow and the Botanical Gardens at Saharanpur for the year ending* 31*st March*, 1919.)

Horticultural gardens.

164. The sale and distribution of acclimatised flower, vegetable, and tree seeds at the Lucknow gardens continued to increase, the number of packets distributed being 19,405 as against 14,890 in the preceding year. A fairly large proportion of the flower-seed was supplied free to colleges and schools, the demand for school gardens having been much heavier than usual. Free distribution of seed was also made to Soldiers' Gardens, to Government institutions in India, and abroad and to the military authorities in Mesopotamia. Various improvements in the gardens were effected, the most important being the installation of an up-to-date pumping plant. In spite of an adverse season the financial results were little inferior to those of last year. Receipts amounted to Rs. 12,375 or rather less than in the last year, while the expenditure increased from Rs. 30,906 to Rs. 33,396. The number of plants distributed from the gardens during the year was 46,137, 9,718 of which were fruit trees and the rest ornamental plants, bulbs, and economic and shade trees. Eighteen thousand nine hundred and sixty-five plants to the value of Rs. 5,097 were supplied either by free issue or exchange. The Chaudhri class consisted of 12 students. Of these, four finished the three-year course and after examination were given certificates.

Botanical gardens.

165. The Dehra Dun gardens have now been placed under the Superintendent of the Lucknow gardens. In spite of adverse weather and labour conditions it was found possible to carry out minor improvements of various kinds. Hailstorms and hot winds coupled with the drought caused the loss of a large number of young plants at Saharanpur and the deterioration of many others There were, however, compensating circumstances. Irrigation is now carried on almost entirely by tube wells and water was available at all times. Very little planting could be done during the rains but many renewals were made in the cold season. Receipts decreased by Rs. 2,890

from Rs. 22,367 to Rs. 19,477, the decrease being due to the decrease in the sale of seeds, fruits, and fruit plants. Expenditure amounted to Rs. 36,559, which is Rs. 2,131 less than last year and Rs. 5,906 less than the budget estimate. The school of Horticulture which now consists of the Chaudhri and Mali classes only has been kept up to the usual standard and the majority of those passing out have had no difficulty in obtaining employment. There was a large demand for trained malis and chaudhris.

30—Forests.

[*For details see the annual progress report on Forest administration for the year ending 30th June, 1919, and the tables under the head "Forest," Part IV (b)—Statistics of British India.*]

Area and demarcation.

166. State forests decreased slightly in area from 7,495 to 7,473 square miles. The principal changes were in the Western and Kumaun circles. In the former there is a reduction of 14 square miles, due to the recalculation of the actual acreage of forests in Haldwani and Ramnagar divisions and to the transfer of three square miles from Haldwani division to the Tarai and Bhabar Government Estates. In the Kumaun circle 213 square miles of protected forests were reserved and two square miles of reserved forest were restored to the villagers at the time of re-demarcation in the North Garhwal division. The settlement of 213 square miles in South Garhwal was completed and that of 1,097 square miles in North Garhwal was in hand at the close of the year. Draft notifications for some of the blocks that were re-demarcated in North Garhwal have been submitted to Government. The total cost of settlement in the Kumaun circle was Rs. 5,423 as compared with Rs. 5,685 last year. The settlement of the reserved forests of the Chakrata division in the Jaunsar-Bawar pargana was taken in hand, and practically completed during the year at a cost of Rs. 12,009.

Demarcation work was done chiefly in the Kumaun circle, 185 miles being demarcated. Four hundred and fifty-seven miles in East Almora and North Garhwal still remain to be done. The total length of the boundaries at the end of the year was 14,291 miles, of which 2,225 are natural and do not require any artificial marks.

Revenue.

167. The total receipts realized during the year rose from Rs. 63·16 to Rs. 67·52 lakhs, while the surplus decreased from Rs. 29·63 to Rs. 19·70 lakhs. This decrease of about 10 lakhs was mainly due to the capital expenditure incurred on the construction of the new resin factory at Bareilly and on the buildings and plant for Sawmills and Turnery. The increase in gross revenue mainly occurs under Rosin and Turpentine.

Expenditure.

168. The total expenditure rose from Rs. 33·52 to Rs. 47·81 lakhs. The increase generally is mainly due to the expansion of the resin industry and the production of Stockholm tar, the supply of timber to the Utilization Circle, and other expenditure in connection with this circle which was started during the year, and to the putting into operation of a scheme for the extraction of railway sleepers from Nepal. There was a considerable rise also in establishment charges and the only heads which showed a decrease were expenditure on drift and confiscated timber, and duty on foreign timber. The decrease in these cases was very small.

Outturn.

169. The outturn of timber decreased from 9·2 to 8·9 million cubic feet. The decrease was confined to the Kumaun circle and even there the revenue increased. In the Eastern circle there was no change in outturn while the revenue increased by 3½ lakhs. In the Western circle the outturn was nearly the same, but the increase in revenue smaller. The total value of timber and fuel increased from Rs. 49·3 to Rs. 54·2 lakhs. The outturn of fuel was practically the same as last year, but the value decreased by Rs. 55,000, due to the restriction of fuel sales in consequence of the shortage of rolling stock, which was particularly acute in the North Kheri division. The value of the output of bamboos rose from Rs. 2·36 to Rs. 3·00 lakhs and of minor produce from Rs. 19·35 to Rs. 20·09 lakhs, the

increase in the latter being due to larger sales of turpentine and colophony. The crop of crude rosin was 93,386 maunds, or an increase of 25,524 maunds over last year's figures. The increase was due to favourable weather. Forty-four thousand nine hundred and sixty-four maunds of resin and 96,251 gallons of turpentine were manufactured during the year and the total sales realized Rs. 11·94 lakhs as against Rs. 11·46 lakhs in the previous year. The net profit rose from Rs. 4·77 to Rs. 5·34 lakhs. The arrangements for the supply of sleepers to metre gauge railways were continued. More than three lakhs of metre gauge and about five thousand broad gauge sal sleepers were supplied from the Eastern and Western circles.

Breaches of forest rules.

170. Breaches of forest rules rose from 4,416 to 4,685, including 2,454 unauthorized fellings or removals and 1,720 cases of unauthorized grazing. Cases taken to court numbered 171 inclusive of 22 pending from last year. One hundred and thirty-eight cases were tried and 33 were pending at the close of the year. Convictions were obtained in 102, or 73·9 per cent. The number of cases compounded totalled 3,766 and involved 16,249 persons as compared with 3,550 cases and 16,187 persons last year. The average compensation taken fell from Re. 1-8-5 to Re. 1-4-9 per person.

Protection from fire.

171. The season was unfavourable to fire conservancy in the plains and submontane forests owing to a dry autumn and want of showers in May. The area under protection during the year was 48·68 per cent. of the whole forest area or slightly more than last year. Three-quarters of the forests of the Western and Eastern circles and one-sixth of those of Kumaun are under protection. There were in all 283 fires which burnt 95·2 square miles, as compared with 154 fires which burnt 35·7 square miles in 1917-18. The only division of the Kumaun circle in which the percentage of failure was high was the East Almora division where 3·39 per cent. of the protected area was burnt. Fire protection in Kumaun is confined mainly to forests under regeneration or resin tapping and to some areas which were closed after the incendiary fires of 1916. Much remain to be done to complete an adequate system of fire-lines, but progress is being made.

Grazing.

172. The income from grazing dues increased from Rs. 1·23 to Rs. 1·24 lakhs. Thirty per cent. of the total grazing area remained closed and 54 per cent. remained open to all animals for the whole year. The number of cattle grazed increased by about 19,000.

Communications and buildings.

173. The total expenditure incurred on new works and repairs rose from Rs. 1·35 to Rs. 1·81 lakhs. Three hundred and ninety-six miles of new roads and paths were constructed and 6,178 miles were repaired. The Sarda Valley road in the Haldwani division was continued and completed on a good alignment, in order to carry a light tramway, thus obviating the necessity of floating timber through the gorge. The construction of this road which is the most important road-work ever undertaken by the Forest department in these provinces will enable the sal forests of the Unarao Valley of Nepal to be tapped. A road four and a half miles long was made in the Dehra Dun division with the object of opening out the forests west of the Chakrata-Saharanpur main road. The survey of the Ramnagar-Mohan-Kumaria railway is in hand. A civil engineer in now being employed in the Kumaun circle to deal in a more expert fashion with major projects and afford relief to the forest staff. The existing programme for communications in Kumaun will be revised in view of the need of constructing a network of bridle-paths for the gradual introduction of pack animal transport and in order to facilitate the export of resin. Much is also hoped for from the scheme for a ropeway between Almora and Kathgodam which should soon be put in hand.

The expenditure on buildings in all circles was Rs. 6,68,894 on new works and Rs. 48,346 on repairs, as compared with Rs. 31,003 and Rs. 47,144 respectively the previous year. By far the greater part of the expenditure was incurred on the construction of the new resin factory and the Sawmill and Turnery buildings at Maheshpur-Utaria.

General.

174. The financial results of the year's work are, as usual, somewhat obscured by the system of charging large items of capital expenditure in the

current accounts. This reduced the surplus by ten lakhs, although the year was again a record one as regards gross revenue, which was 4½ lakhs more than the previous year. The department was still handicapped by shortage of staff and a further difficulty was experienced in the scanty supply of railway wagons available for timber and fuel traffic, this being partly due to the famine fodder operations.

Several important administrative changes were approved or considered during the year. A new Utilization circle was created from the 1st October, 1918, which comprises the following five divisions, (1) Resin, (2) Sawmill, (3) Forest Utilization and Woodworking Institute, (4) Forest Engineer, and (5) Research. The first is only for administrative purposes in the Utilization circle and for budget purposes it remains in the Kumaun circle. The last was transferred to the direct control of the Chief Conservator of Forests after the close of the year. A proposal to partition the West Almora division on account of the great expansion in the resin industry and the need for a larger staff and closer supervision has been approved and will take effect during the current year. The reorganization and expansion of the subordinate forest service is under consideration. The Sawmills division at Sitapar was transferred at the close of the year to Bareilly. The appointment of Silviculturist was filled during the year.

Considerable progress was made during the year with the measures initiated in the previous year for a more scientific exploitation of the forests. There was a considerable increase in the resin output, but the completion of the new resin distillery at Bareilly was hindered by transport and other difficulties which could not be avoided. The erection of the new Sawmill and Turnery factory was commenced. The forest utilization officer was mainly occupied on the construction of this factory and the supervision of the Woodworking Institute at Bareilly, and was not able to devote much time to experimental work. The work of the new circle generally was much hampered by shortage of staff, and considerable difficulty was experienced in obtaining competent men for the higher posts. This was partly due to the delay occasioned by the necessity of obtaining the sanction of the Secretary of State to some appointments, and partly to the deferred demobilization of men recruited from the territorial regiments. The powers of the Local Government have now been considerably enlarged in regard to the creation of temporary appointments in this circle and now that the more important posts have been filled the difficulty of reconciling a commercial undertaking with ordinary official procedure should be less acute. Among other features of interest was an arrangement for the extraction of sleepers from Nepal in pursuance of an offer by the Nepal Durbar to the British Government of two lakhs of broad gauge sal sleepers. All preliminary steps have now been taken and it is expected that the work will be completed by June, 1921. An immediate result of the scheme was the extension of the Rohilkhand and Kumaun Railway from Tanakpur to Barmdeo, a work of permanent benefit to the Haldwani and East Almora divisions. In afforestation work the most interesting feature was the ravine reclamation work in the Etawah district, which was utilized as a form of famine relief, with excellent results. Work on chir tar continued but shortage of staff prevented as much attention being paid to it as last year. Sleepers and other timber, tan stuffs and rosin and turpentine continued to be supplied in large quantities to the Indian Munitions Board as long as the demand continued.

31—Mines and Quarries.

(For details see the tables under "Mineral production" in Part I—Statistics of British India.)

Mines.

175. There are practically no mines in these provinces. Gold dust was produced in the Naini Tal, Garhwal and Bijnor districts to the value of Rs. 20, Rs. 350 and Rs. 28 respectively. The mine in the Jhansi district did not work during the year under review. Less than 10 maunds of iron of the value of Rs. 74 was produced in Garhwal as compared with 12 maunds of the value of Rs. 96 in the preceding year.

Quarries.

176. In the Almora district 27,676 slates worth Rs. 5,284 were quarried as against 43,025 valued at Rs. 8,191 in 1917-18. The Mirzapur stone quarries produced 141,764 tons, principally building stone and ballast, or 8,853 tons more than in the last year: the value of the outturn increased from Rs. 2·6 lakhs to Rs. 2·8 lakhs. The Banda quarries produced 9,069 tons to the value of Rs. 46,619 as compared with 8,243 tons worth Rs. 27,971 last year. There was also a slight increase in the quantity and value of the limestone burnt in the Naini Tal and Dehra Dun districts.

32—Manufactures.

(For details see the tables in Parts I and II—Statistics of British India.)

Cotton.

177. The number of cotton ginning and pressing factories worked during the year under report was 79 employing 8,428 as against 105 employing 11,740 operatives last year. The decrease was due to the scarcity of cotton. The number of cotton mills was 19 as against 18 last year. A new mill was started in July at Hathras with a capital of Rs. 7 lakhs. The total number of looms, spindles and work people was 4,460, 459,777 and 15,735 respectively as against 4,713, 761,760 and 15,150 in the previous year.

Sugar factories.

178. There were 10 sugar factories employing 2,705 workmen, as against 10 emloying 2,286 last year. Selling prices continued to be very favourable for manufacturers.

Indigo.

179. The number of indigo factories was 63 employing 8,293 workmen as against 229 factories employing 20,493, in the previous year. The decrease is due to the small profits made in that year.

Lac.

180. The number of lac factories (all in Mirzapur) increased from 10 to 31 and the number of workmen employed from 1,030 to 2,950. The figures for 1916 were 30 and 3,093 respectively. The increase is due to the high prices of lac which prevailed throughout the year. The working of the factories was again impeded to some extent by restrioted railway bookings.

Tanneries.

181. The number of tanneries fell from 8 to 6 and the number of workmen from 6,246 to 5,929. The decrease is due to the cessation of hostilities, most of the tanneries having been employed during the last few years in supplying army requirements.

Miscellaneous.

182. Five glass factories worked during the year. The industry has been in a flourishing condition and trade has reached considerable dimensions under the stress of war conditions. The Allahabad and Bijohi glass works especially made good progress. A number of Indian workmen were trained during the year at Allahabad, the workmanship much improved and the output of the factory was doubled.

There are eight large bangle factories in Firozabad, where some 400 persons are employed, or an average of 50 persons in each factory. This industry also enjoyed a prosperous year, but there is room for improvement in the business organization of the industry.

There are three oil mills in these provinces worked by mechanical power. One at Manauri (district Allahabad), one at Agra and one at Cawnpore. The Premier Oil Mill at Cawnpore has increased its capital and arrangements are being made to build another large factory at the same place with an up-to-date plant including an installation for manufacturing castor oil suitable for the lubrication of high speed engines.

The soda factory at Cawnpore was taken over on a long lease by a local firm. There are four flour mills in these provinces worked by mechanical power.

There is only one Jute Mill with 73 looms and 1,780 spindles employing 587 workpeople as against 31 looms, 1,200 spindles and 535 operatives employed during the previous year.

Other industries which have prospered under war conditions are the leather industry and the metalware industries. Both, however, require expert guidance if the trade is to be permanently captured and expanded and this remark applies to the industries of the province generally.

Weaving schools.

183. The number of students at the Government Central Weaving Institute, Benares, increased from 87 to 90. The system of paying students piece-work wages was tried as an experiment and proved most successful.

The appointment of a Dyeing Master at the institute was sanctioned permanently. Seven out of ten candidates sat successfully for the City and Guilds of London examination. The Institute has now been made a centre for this examination. Work continued to be done for the Indian Munitions Board.

The record of district weaving schools is on the whole satisfactory. At the Sandila Weaving Institute seven students passed out of the school, and started work at their own homes: some weavers, however, had to give up weaving owing to the high price of yarn. At Moradabad, 17 students passed out of the school, all of whom started work at their homes, but here also the high price of yarn and other materials was found to be a considerable handicap. Progress at the Tyler Weaving School, Shahjahanpur, and the Hewett Weaving School, Bara Banki, was satisfactory. The Muzaffarnagar Blanket Weaving School worked solely as a training school. Practically all the ex-students of this school are working either in small factories in the blanket weaving districts of the province or at their homes and there are only a few who have taken up other work. Among the peripatetic weaving schools those at Agra and Sahaswan were not popular. The Sahaswan school has therefore been transferred to Meerut and arrangements are being made to close the school at Agra and re-open it either at Mainpuri or Bulandshahr The Deokali peripatetic weaving school at Fyzabad on the other hand which has only recently been started, appears to be very popular. The new peripatetic school at Mau which was started in 1917 as an experiment has met with remarkable success. It is now considered to be the most successful school in the province, and has been made permanent. Progress at the Hosiery school at Almora was hindered by the difficulty of obtaining machines, needles and yarn. There is plenty of room for expansion here as soon as normal conditions return.

Joint Stock Companies.

184. Nine new Joint Stock Companies with registered capital of Rs. 16,32,000 were registered during the year as compared with five in the previous year.

33—Trade.

(For details see the annual reports on inland and foreign trade for the year ending 31st March, 1919, and the accounts of trade carried by rail and river in India.)

Addition to the Railway system.

185. No additions were made to the railway systems.

Total rail-borne traffic.

186. The volume of rail-borne traffic rose by 58½ lakhs of maunds in weight and by Rs. 2,162 lakhs in value. The improvement occurred in the import trade in consequence of larger receipts of grain and salt: exports showed a falling off, an increase under oilseeds and sugar being more than counterbalanced by the heavy decrease under grains.

Imports.

187. Imports rose by about 109 lakhs of maunds and their value by 1,367 lakhs of rupees. Imports, chiefly of grains, from Bihar and Orissa rose by over 37¾ lakhs of maunds, those from the Punjab rose by 28 lakhs of maunds, those from Calcutta by 22¼ lakhs of maunds, and those from Bengal by 13 lakhs of maunds. Altogether imports of grain and pulse rose from 48½ to 149¾ lakhs of maunds, this increase being due to the failure of the kharif harvest. 6,265 thousand maunds of rice in all were imported of which 2,417 thousand maunds came from Burma, as compared with 595 thousand maunds in the previous year. Imports of gram and pulse rose by about 41 lakhs of maunds and there were increases also in the case of all other grains except juar and bajra which show a decrease. Other increases were under cotton goods, fodder, oilseeds and salt imported from the Bombay Presidency and under coal and coke, dyes and tans, fodder "railway plant," and wood from the Central Provinces and Berar. Imports of oilseeds were the largest on record and amounted to 14½ lakhs of maunds as against 8⅔ lakhs of maunds in the previous year. Salt was received in larger quantities than during the previous year from Rajputana and Central India. The only important decreases which occurred were under coal and coke of 6½ lakhs of maunds, under kerosine of about 2 lakhs of maunds, and under wool of about 68,000 of maunds. Imports of raw

sugar products and of unrefined sugar also fell off but there was a large increase in imports of refined sugar. Imports of cotton goods were almost on the same scale as in the previous year.

Exports.

188. Exports, which had risen by 98½ lakhs of maunds in 1917-18 decreased by over 50 lakhs of maunds, but the value rose by about 795 lakhs of rupees. The trade with Karachi and Calcutta showed a drop of over 66 and 22 lakhs of maunds respectively, due to diminished despatch of grains, and that with Bihar and Orissa a drop of 19 lakhs of maunds. A decrease of 4¼ lakhs of maunds each occurred in the trade with Bengal, Central Provinces and Berar and Madras port. On the other hand large exports of grains, oilseeds and sugar led to an increase of 33 lakhs of maunds in the trade with Bombay Presidency. There was an increase of about 25 lakhs of maunds in the export to the Punjab chiefly under sugar, wood and mineral substances. Sindh shows an increase of five lakhs of maunds, chiefly under fodder. In the trade with Rajputana and Central India exports of grains and sugar show increases, while railway plant, etc., and other merchandise exhibit a decrease. There was an increase under fodder of 2·88 lakhs of maunds, under oilseeds of 11⅛ lakhs of maunds, under sugar of about 28 lakhs of maunds, due to a good crop, and under wood of about 8 lakhs of maunds due principally to the increase in the exports of 'timber excluding railway sleepers.' Exports under the head of mineral substances also rose, the trade with the Punjab, Calcutta and Bihar and Orissa in marble and stone accounting for an increase of 7·84 lakhs of maunds. The cotton crop was again a failure and exports fell off by 2·41 lakhs of maunds. Exports of grain and pulse dropped by 85⅝ lakhs of maunds, gram and pulse accounting for more than half of this decline. In the first half of the year there were heavy exports in wheat to Bombay and Karachi but Government control in the latter half caused a decrease in the whole year of one lakh of maunds. Exports of rice, however, increased from 10⅝ to 19¼ lakhs of maunds. Hides and skins, railway plant and rolling stock and tea all show diminished exports.

Trade of Cawnpore.

189. The trade of Cawnpore followed the general course of the trade of the province. The imports advanced by 1,472,788 maunds owing chiefly to large importation of food grains. Under exports decreases occurred under cotton raw, cotton goods, fodder, grains, 'hides and skins' and salt, but oilseeds, sugar and other merchandise were exported in larger quantities than in the previous year.

Internal rail-borne traffic.

190. The volume of the internal rail-borne traffic increased from 360 lakhs to 382 lakhs of maunds. Fodder, grain and pulse alone accounted for an increase of over 24 lakhs, there was an increase of nearly 3½ lakhs under unrefined sugar and of one lakh under wood. Nearly all other heads including raw cotton, cotton goods, metals, mineral substances, oilseeds and railway plant show a decrease.

River-borne traffic

191. There was a general improvement in both imports and exports of the river-borne traffic. Trade with Calcutta amounted to 181,911 maunds imports and 70,861 maunds exports as compared with 79,790 maunds and 33,152 maunds respectively in the previous year.

Foreign Trade.

Tibet.

192. There was a decline in trade with Tibet. Both imports and exports fell by 5,276 and 1,154 maunds respectively; the value of the former rose by Rs. 41,534, while that of the latter fell off by Rs. 87,009. The net decrease in the value of the total trade was Rs. 45,475. The imports of borax and salt show a decrease, this occurring mainly in the Almora district, while the trade of wool, which had dropped by 1,488 maunds last year rose by 1,900 maunds. The general decrease in the import trade is attributed to the epidemics of cholera and influenza which prevailed both in Bhot and Tibet. A further cause for the decrease in the import of salt is reported to be the growing popularity of Sambhar salt as compared with Tibetan. The exports of cotton goods and grains to Tibet show a decrease and of sugar an increase. The variations occurred chiefly in the Almora district which accounts for 76 per cent. of the total export trade with Tibet. Taking the exports as a whole there was an improvement in the trade with British

Garhwal, but a falling off in the trade with Almora and the Tehri-Garhwal State. In the latter case a marked falling off in both imports and exports is reported to be due to the refusal of the Tibetan authorities to allow the Tehri traders to trade at Pulang, their recognized market.

Nepal.

193. Imports from Nepal decreased by 613,283 maunds owing to smaller receipts of grains and fibrous products: while the export trade increased by 10,032 maunds. The total value, however, of the imports rose by Rs. 11,61,426 while that of exports declined by Rs. 2,25,476. The decrease in imports is shared by all districts which trade with Nepal except Naini Tal and Almora, the largest decreases occurring in Basti, Bahraich, Kheri and Gorakhpur. Imports of grain which had risen by 326,660 maunds in the preceding year, dropped by 503,821 maunds, the same districts being in the main responsible for this decrease. This decline is reported to be due to restrictions imposed by the Nepal Durbar on the exports of foodstuffs. The other chief articles of the import trade which also show decreases are fibrous products, cutch, spices, drugs and medicines, fruits and vegetables, gums and resins, hides and skins and timber. On the other hand the imports of oilseeds largely increased and there was some rise also in the imports of ghi and bamboos. After a continued decline for some years the export trade rose by 10,032 maunds. The increase is shared by all districts except Pilibhit, Kheri and Bahraich. The export of salt and silver increased; while there was a decrease under cotton goods, fruits and vegetables, grains, metals, mahua, spices, sugar and tobacco, this however being more than counter-balanced by the increase in salt which took place in all the districts carrying on trade with Nepal.

34—Buildings and Roads.

(For details see the annual administration report of the Public Works department, Buildings and Roads branch, for the year ending 31st March, 1919.)

Revenue and expenditure.

194. The revenue realized during the year by the Buildings and Roads branch of the Public Works department amounted to Rs. 4·11 lakhs of which Rs. 3·53 lakhs were provincial. The expenditure totalled just over Rs. 100 lakhs, a figure closely approximating to that of the previous year. Of this total nearly Rs. 3 lakhs were for imperial works, Rs. 56,708 for famine relief, Rs. 60·22 lakhs for provincial works, Rs. 28·01 lakhs for excluded local funds and Rs. 8·45 lakhs for contribution works.

Imperial buildings.

195. The greater part of the expenditure on imperial civil works went once again towards furthering the needs of the Imperial Bacteriological laboratories at Mukhtesar. A number of works estimated to cost Rs. 3,60,027 were undertaken and a sum of Rs. 2,18,628 was spent on them. Other works of note included the construction of an Orthopoedic Institute and a treatment room in the X-ray Institute at Dehra Dun. Both these buildings were completed at a cost of Rs. 44,542. A remarkable feature of the year's operations was the erection of temporary quarters for Indian troops. At Rae Bareli barracks were provided for two infantry battalions at an aggregate cost of Rs. 2,60,000 and at Bareilly and at Moradabad the existing jail and other buildings were remodelled and placed temporarily at the disposal of the military department.

Provincial buildings.

196. The expenditure under this head was nearly Rs. 3 lakhs in excess of last year's figure, but it was still only about two-thirds of that incurred in 1916-17. Of the net outlay, which amounted to Rs. 14,64,530, a sum of Rs. 5,44,276 was spent on the construction of buildings required for conserving and maintaining the fabric of administration, while an approximately similar amount was devoted to the needs of the Education department. The heads of Police, Law and Justice and Medical were responsible for the greater part of the balance. There was also a substantial increase over the outlay of the previous year on works executed from contributed funds.

Some of the delapidated tahsilis were replaced and there were some minor extensions of collectorate buildings. Satisfactory progress was achieved on the work of renovating and extending the offices of the Collectorate at Basti. The High School at Amroha in the Moradabad

district was completed and handed over to the Educational department and the hostel for the training college at Allahabad was remodelled and brought into use. Extra class rooms were provided for the Husainabad High School at Lucknow. Additions and alterations to the High Schools at Aligarh and Basti were in progress. The new High School at Cawnpore also made satisfactory progress and is now almost finished. Fair progress was also made on the training college at Agra. Several middle schools were erected or were in course of erection from funds provided by district boards. The civil court building at Pilibhit is nearing completion. The operations under the head of Police consisted mainly of the construction of police stations. Five of these were completed and progress on the remainder was satisfactory. Nothing calling for special comment was accomplished under the head of Medical, except the construction of two hospitals out of district board funds. The new jail at Ballia is now nearing completion and the work on the bund for the protection of Ballia town from the floods of the river Ganges was completed during the year.

Communications.

197. Although rail facilities for moving road metal practically ceased and the department was further handicapped by the ravages made by the influenza epidemic among the labouring classes, progress was better on new communications than on structural works. Inclusive of the outlay from contributions, which rose considerably, the expenditure on original works amounted to a little over 8 lakhs of rupees. The total expenditure on communications amounted to Rs. 26·24 lakhs as against Rs. 24·40 lakhs in the previous year. An additional length of 101 miles was metalled, thus bringing the total provincial mileage to 7,329 miles excluding 26 miles maintained by local agency. The length of unmetalled roads under departmental control was further reduced by 82 miles, while 158 miles were added to that of local roads.

The diversion from the Meerut-Moradabad and Bareilly road to join the overbridge recently built by the Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway was opened to traffic early in January, but some work still remains to be done. The inter-provincial trunk road link with the Punjab through Saharanpur is now nearing completion. Satisfactory progress was made on the construction of the cart road from Rajpur to Kholukhet in the Mussoorie hills in the Dehra Dun district. Protective works for safeguarding the viaducts over the Asan river on the Chakrata-Saharanpur road in the Dehra Dun district and over the Solani river on the Meerut-Rurki-Landour road in the Saharanpur district were taken in hand. The construction of the pilgrim route from Bhatrojkhan towards Ganai via Bhikiasen is making good progress and nearly three lakhs were expended on it during the year. The metalling of the remaining portion of the Gonda-Bahraich road was retarded by the failureof some quarries, the influenza epidemic and low rates.

Useful work continued to be done on district board roads, chiefly in the Agra, Etah, Moradabad, Pilibhit, Budaun, Hardoi, Allahabad and Mirzapur districts.

Navigation.

198. Navigation works were confined to the same districts and to the same areas as in previous years. A sum of Rs. 12,222 as compared with Rs. 8,799 in 1917-18 was spent in maintaining the river lengths in a navigable condition. This increase was due to the abnormally small discharge of the Ganges river during the winter in the Benares and Ghazipur districts.

Electric light and power.

199. Work under this head was brought almost to a standstill owing to the dearth of materials.

Sanitary works.

200. Expenditure on sanitary works was again further reduced owing to the unfavourable financial position and the rise in prices, the total amount spent on construction and maintenance being Rs. 15·67 lakhs as compared with Rs. 16 lakhs in the previous year. Of this Rs. 6·70 lakhs were spent on original works as against Rs. 8 lakhs in the previous year. The total value of projects in hand amounted to Rs. 140 lakhs and projects to the value of Rs. 53·44 lakhs were completed and submitted for sanction.

There were no serious breakdowns in the pumping installations in the province during the year but the engines at Benares and Allahabad have had to be overhauled. The demand for water in most of the larger municipalities is now fast exceeding the supply and it has become necessary to consider schemes for remodelling the plant at Benares, Allahabad and Lucknow. In Fyzabad the water works scheme has not advanced as the pumping plant was requisitioned by the military authorities for use in Mesopotamia. In Agra the plant worked efficiently throughout the year, but an extension to the filtration plant is much needed. The tube wells lately sunk in Allahabad will it is hoped soon be completed. Similar wells have also been sunk at Etawah, Bareilly, Shahjahanpur and Benares. The drainage work in Dehra Dun is in progress and that in the Landour Bazar in Mussoorie is nearly complete. The Kydganj drainage scheme at Allahabad has made good progress, and drainage schemes for the other more important towns of the province are under preparation.

Arboriculture.

201. Arboricultural operations included 132 miles planted and 1,429 maintained, at a cost of Rs. 81,794. Revenue from sale of produce amounted to Rs. 26,034.

Private works.

202. In addition to the contribution works already mentioned, Rs. 3·74 lakhs were contributed by private individuals for the construction of works of public utility such as dharamshalas, wells, schools, etc.

General.

203. During the year under report six more officers and five more subordinates were deputed to military duty thus making a total of 42 officers and subordinates. The abolition of the Moradabad, Farrukhabad and Gorakhpur divisions was noticed in last year's Report. The further depletion of the staff made it imperative to abolish the Sitapur division and to absorb its constituent districts in other divisions. For the same reason it was found necessary to amalgamate the two sub-divisions of Allahabad and re-distribute the work.

A proposal to form a special Project Circle for the preparation of a large number of important revenue, police and other building projects covering the whole area of the province was sanctioned after the close of the year.

35—Canals.

(For details see the annual administration report of the Public Works Department, Irrigation branch, for the year ending 31st March, 1919.)

Outlay and construction.

204. The capital expenditure on canals during the year was Rs 11·42 lakhs as compared with Rs. 13·67 lakhs in the previous year. The total capital outlay direct and indirect to the end of the year amounted to Rs. 13·16 crores. Of the year's expenditure Rs. 4·57 lakhs were spent on protective works, Rs. 6·19 lakhs on productive works and the balance on minor works. The outlay on protective works was incurred mainly on the construction of the Ghagar canal, Barwar lake and canal, Batkhara, Jaiwanti and Aunjhar tanks. On productive works the outlay was mainly incurred on the construction of the permanent headworks of the Ganges canal, on the Mat Branch and on the Eastern Jumna canal. The expenditure on minor works was chiefly due to the construction of the Kulpahar tank, Seori lakes and Rampur Kalyangarh tank. Good progress was made on the more important works under construction though certain works had to be held in abeyance owing to lack of funds.

Works proposed.

205. Most of the protective works proposed have been referred to in previous reports, their execution having been since postponed for various causes. Several of the most important have been held up owing to the difficulty of acquiring land in Native States. This is the case with the Belan, Trans-Burma Extention of the Dhasan Canal and Paisuni canals. The estimates and plans for an additional dam on the Betwa river at Kaprar and for the proposed Moth canal in the Jhansi district were completed. The estimate for the Gursarai canal which will complete the scheme is under reparation. The construction of the dam at Kaprar and the Moth and Gursarai canals also depends mainly on the possibility of acquiring land in

the Native States and the settlement of the general policy of canal irrigation in Bundelkhand in regard to the financial return of the proposed projects. Both the schemes for the Ohan canal and the Urmal canal await a settlement of the question of the financial returns with the revenue authorities. The Pachwara lake and the Bela Sagar schemes have been sanctioned by the Government of India, but the former has been reserved as a famine work. Of the three schemes proposed in connection with the Sarda canal, namely, the Sarda-Kichha feeder project, the Sarda-Ganges feeder project and the Oudh canal project, the first has since been sanctioned by the Secretary of State, the second has been dropped and a revised estimate is to be prepared and surveys to be started for the third.

Surveys

206. No important surveys took place during the year. An expenditure of Rs. 33,084 was incurred on Famine Relief Works.

Financial results.

207. The gross revenue from all classes of works amounted to Rs. 13,618,414 or Rs 9,96,415 more than the previous year. The net revenue was Rs. 97,21,348 or Rs. 10,19,196 more than the previous year and the net profits amounted to Rs. 55,75,033 against Rs. 47,27,049 during 1917-18. There was a loss on each of the Protective canals except on the Betwa, Ken and Pahuj and Garhmau canals. The total gain neglecting interest charges was Rs. 1,60,858 as compared with a loss of Rs. 1,94,844 in the previous year. Productive canals show an increase of Rs. 7,13,249 in the net revenue and the minor canals a decrease of Rs. 49,755. The increase in the gross revenue from Protective canals is due to the increase in the areas irrigated. The loss from the working of these canals was 2·70 per cent. on the total capital outlay to the end of the year. As regards Productive works the increase in the gross revenue and working expenses as compared with the previous year is Rs. 7,90,975 and Rs. 77,726, the increase in the gross revenue being accounted for by the increase in the areas irrigated. The gain on the working of the canals was 6·01 per cent. on the capital outlay. Under the head of 'Minor Works' there was an increase of Rs. 5,336 and Rs. 55,091 in the gross revenue and working expenses respectively. The increase in the working expenses is due to extensions and improvements, mostly in rebuilding the Kulli dam. The gain on the working of minor canals was 3·66 per cent. on the capital outlay. The terms of the provincial contract introduced from the 1st April, 1909, remained unaltered. Under this contract, the local Government retains the direct revenue from the major productive and minor irrigation works while meeting all charges for the latter and providing for all outlay on improvements and maintenance, as well as paying interest on the capital expenditure for the former. The Government of India, however, guarantee to make good any deficiency in the net revenue from major productive works below 55½ lakhs. This year the net revenue from major productive works was more than 20 lakhs of rupees in excess of the 55½ lakhs minimum thus guaranteed. This is the sixth consecutive year in which there has been a surplus over the guaranteed amount.

Assessments.

208. The gross revenue (canal rates, etc.) assessed rose from Rs. 129·8 lakhs to Rs. 144·36 lakhs or over Rs. 14 lakhs, this being due to the larger area irrigated by the canals during the year.

Mileage of canals

209. The total length of channels at the close of the year was 16,069 miles or 37 miles more than last year, the increase being mainly on the Ghagar canal.

36—Irrigation.

Irrigated area.

210. The total area irrigated by all canals was 36,94,863 acres, an increase of 4,85,438 acres on the previous year or 5,73,029 acres in excess of the average area irrigated during the three years ending 1917-18. The season was a dry one. The monsoon was practically a failure and from the latter half of August to the third week of January practically no rain fell. The demand for canal water was consequently strong and the areas irrigated by the Ganges, Eastern Jumna and Rohilkhand canals were the highest on record. Supplies were more or less adequate up to September after

which they were insufficient owing to the rapid falling of the rivers. Agricultural operations were greatly disorganized in October and November by the influenza epidemic and this resulted in a large area dependent on wells being left unsown.

211. The total value of the crops irrigated was Rs. 25·84 crores as compared with 17·67 crores in the previous year, the rate per acre being 69·96 compared with 55·08 in the previous year. The increase in value is due to the high prices prevalent. The areas irrigated show an increase under all crops except indigo and poppy. There was, however, a slight falling off also from 9,34,760 to 9,33,862 acres in the case of wheat. The sugarcane area was the highest on record. Crops irrigated.

CHAPTER V.—REVENUE AND FINANCE.

(a)—Imperial Revenue and Finance.

[*For details see the accounts for the year* 1918-19, *and the tables in Part IV (a) and (b)—Statistics of British India.*]

37—Gross revenue.

212. The imperial share of the gross revenue realized amounted to Rs. 4,38,30,457 as compared with Rs. 4,99,26,900 in the year 1917-18.

38—Land revenue.

213. The gross land revenue realized was Rs. 5,72,98,273 of which the imperial share was Rs. 3,43,45,294. The corresponding figures for the previous year were Rs. 6,50,75,723 and Rs. 3,92 05,997 respectively.

39—Canal revenue.

214. The gross direct revenue accruing from canals rose from Rs. 1,05,03,266 in 1917-18 to Rs. 1,15,09,261.

40—Excise.

[*For details see the annual report on the Administration of Excise for the year ending* 31*st March*, 1919, *and the tables under the head "Excise" Part IV (b)—Statistics of British India.*]

215. From the point of view of agricultural and commercial prosperity the year may be divided into two periods; in the first, the consuming classes were unusually prosperous owing to the good harvests of the previous years, the commercial activity due to the war and the good wages earned either in the army or in work connected with it. The second period is marked by the failure of the monsoon and the armistice and consequent demobilization and cessation of manufacture of war material which caused a marked decline in the purchasing power of consumers during the last quarter of the year. On the other hand during the influenza epidemic country spirit was much used as a preventative and this and overstocking by retail vendors in anticipation of heavy enhancements of duty in the following year prevented the consumption figures for the last half of the year from being as low as they would have been otherwise. The total revenue for the year was the best on record by nearly 10 per cent., receipts rising from Rs 142·05 lakhs to Rs. 156·09 lakhs, there being an increase as regards country liquor and opium and a decrease as regards hemp drugs. Consumption rose in the cases of country liquor and bhang and fell in the cases of ganja, charas and opium. There was a further considerable reduction in the number of shops Receipts.

216. Of the total demand of Rs. 157·73 lakhs, Rs. 157·60 lakhs or 99·9 per cent. were collected. A debt of Rs. 28,814 due from a drugs contractor of 1906-09 who lives in a Native State is still outstanding. The other cases of arrears are comparatively unimportant. Collections.

217. The total receipts from country spirit rose by 13·3 per cent. from Rs. 88·64 lakhs to Rs. 100·47 lakhs. There was a further rise in the incidence of total revenue and the incidence of duty per proof gallon, the figures being Rs. 6-11-8 and Rs. 4-4-1 respectively as against Rs 5-15-3 and Rs. 3-14-4 in the previous year and the incidence of licence fees rose from Rs. 2-0-11 to Rs. 2-7-7. Consumption rose from 1,460,000 to 1,468,000 Country spirit.

gallons. The districts showing the largest increases were Lucknow and Meerut. There were decreases in 23 districts, the most noticeable being Cawnpore which was attributed to combination among the city retail vendors to raise the retail price, and to the armistice which threw a large number of mill hands out of work or reduced their earnings. Receipts from duty again increased by 9·8 per cent from Rs. 56·89 to Rs. 62·47 lakhs. Enhancements took effect in 37 districts or parts of districts from the 1st April, 1918, and there was a further very large increase in rates of duty from 1st April, 1919. The number of public distilleries fell from nine to seven, those at Moradabad and Ghazipur being closed. There were 68 contract bonded warehouses and 17 wholesale dépôts during the year. In the non-contract area there were six bonded warehouses. The four private distilleries at Lucknow, Cawnpore (two) and Rosa continued to be the main source of supply. The number of retail country spirit shops fell from 4,248 to 4,082. The surcharge fixed fee experiment is being persevered in. All that has been shown at present is that it has caused a fall in consumption.

Contract supply system.

218. The contract supply system was from the beginning of the year extended to the seven districts of Meerut, Bulandshahr, Aligarh, Muttra, Moradabad, Ghazipur and Ballia. The total number of districts under the contract system during the year was 39. From the 1st April, 1919, the outstill area of the Allahabad district has been converted to the non-contract distillery system.

Outstill areas.

219. The income from outstills fell from Rs. 1,67,103 to Rs. 1,66,138. There was a large increase in Mirzapur and substantial decreases in Garhwal and Bahraich. The number of outstills has been reduced from 226 to 214.

Hemp drugs.

220. Licence fees on hemp drugs rose from Rs. 15·30 lakhs to Rs. 16·18 lakhs. They are still below the receipts of 1915-16, the year before the last enhancement of duty. The income from duty decreased from Rs, 13·32 lakhs to Rs. 12·05 lakhs owing to fall in consumption of charas. The total revenue from hemp drugs fell from Rs. 28·62 lakhs to Rs. 28·23 lakhs. Consumption of bhang rose from 191,110 to 2,29,165 seers; the consumption of ganja fell from 22,058 to 21,694 seers and of charas from 53,575 to 46,413 seers. The increase in the consumption of bhang is attributed to overstocking in anticipation of the rise in duty from the commencement of the following year

Opium.

221. The total revenue from opium rose from Rs. 13·78 lakhs to Rs. 14·34 lakhs. Licence fees rose from Rs. 5·61 to Rs. 5·89 lakhs. The number of shops was reduced from 1,053 to 1,031 and consumption fell from 55,095 to 47,066 seers, the chief cause being a 20 per cent. increase in the issue price. A subsidiary cause is to be found in the measures taken to check smuggling. The provincial average retail price rose from about Rs. 45 to about Rs. 54. The issue price has now been further raised from the beginning of the current year to Rs. 40 for all districts. During 1918 the highest issue price in any district was Rs. 32-8. Restrictions of issue were enforced in the districts of Allahabad, Benares, Mirzapur, Jaunpur, Ghazipur, Lucknow, Cawnpore, Meerut, Shahjahanpur and Fatehpur and in five districts other special measures were introduced, namely the selection of vendors and the fixation of licence fees. Assuming that the vendors are selected with care there appears to be no reason why the system should not succeed in materially checking smuggling

Tari and Sendhi.

222. Licence fees of tari rose from Rs. 3·58 lakhs to Rs. 3·90 lakhs. The Gorakhpur district provides nearly one-third of the provincial income under this head. The increase in fees which has been noticeable for the past six years is partly due to the increasing retail price of country spirit. The number of shops was reduced by 187 from 2,702 to 2,515.

Foreign liquor.

223. Foreign liquor licence fees rose from Rs. 52,138 to Rs. 55,999 and the number of licences of all kinds under this head fell from 522 to 460, this being chiefly due to a drop in temporary licences from 225 to 176. The chief increases in licence fees were in Dehra Dun, due to a full season in Mussoorie, and in Cawnpore, due to the prosperity arising out of the war manufactures. Issues of locally manufactured foreign spirit

rose from 240,231 to 257,354 L. P. gallons. The consumption of rum by the Army increased from 84,427 to 95,545 L. P. gallons, but was less than in 1916-17 when the demand was 121,157 L. P. gallons. 77,108 gallons of rum, whisky, brandy and gin, intended for public consumption at the full rate of duty were issued as against 80,779 last year and 65,121 in 1916-17. Public institutions, ordnance factories and medical store keepers received 20,926 gallons of rectified spirit free of duty as compared with 21,024 last year and 24,092 in 1916-17. Issues of rectified spirit paying full rate of duty were more than doubled in the last five years An increase in trade again occurred at the three provincial breweries, Ranikhet, Chakrata and Naini Tal, partly owing to the absence of competition of imported beer. Issues from these three breweries rose from 131,337 to 203,799 gallons. The most noticeable feature as regards consumption was the increased consumption of beer, especially in Lucknow, where it is imported from the Punjab.

Prosecutions.

224. The total number of prosecutions under the Excise Act increased from 1,002 to 1,341, the chief increase being under the head of illicit distillation, the number of such cases rising from 302 to 527 This increase is due to a good mahua harvest. Allahabad, Fatehpur and Partabgarh as usual head the list. Convictions for drunkenness decreased from 2,052 to 1,802. Cawnpore, Allahabad and Benares as usual have much the worse record, but whereas last year Cawnpore headed the list, it now falls to third place and Allahabad occupies the premier position. Opium cases decreased from 391 to 347. From the classification of the opium seized it appears that smugglers are now finding it cheaper and easier to obtain opium from elsewhere than to purchase treasury opium from licensed vendors in these provinces. Another distinguishing feature of the last few years has been a large and progressive decrease in prosecutions for traffic in cocaine which is attributed to the stopping of imports from Germany. While the number of prosecutions in 1914-15 was 263, it fell during 1918-19 to 11 and the amount of cocaine confiscated fell from 140 to little more than two ounces.

General.

225. Difficulties arising from the war continued to affect distilling in common with other trades and the difficulties have had to be faced both by the distillers and those responsible for the Excise Administration. Distillers have been unable to replace their machinery; shortage of railway transport has caused shortage of coal, and in the case of one important firm distillation had to be suspended in consequence for more than a month. For a considerable period another important firm was compelled to burn wood in place of coal. Added to these difficulties was the general rise in price of the raw material, chiefly mahua and molasses. Municipal advisory committees were consulted as usual about the number and allocation of shops. They were also consulted in regard to the hours of closing. District conferences of officers of the Police and Excise Departments continued to result in harmonious co-operation.

41—Stamps.

(For details see the annual reports on the stamp returns for the year ending 31st March, 1919, and the tables under the head "Stamps," Part IV (b)—Statistics of British India.)

Receipts and charges.

226. There was a decrease in the gross receipts under the Stamp and Court Fees Acts, from Rs. 1·31 to Rs. 1·25 lakhs. The remarkable feature of the year was the abnormal drop in the receipts under the Court Fees Act during the first eight months. There was an improvement after November, 1918, but the net loss amounted roughly to six lakhs. War conditions, agricultural depression and consequent high prices together with the influenza epidemic all probably in varying degrees contributed to this great decrease in litigation. Charges increased from Rs. 3·12 to Rs. 3·19 lakhs.

Judicial stamps.

227. The gross income from judicial stamps showed a decrease from Rs. 104·03 to Rs. 97·55 lakhs. Sale of stamps for copies fell from Rs. 5·74 to Rs. 5·10 lakhs and sale of plain paper from Rs. ·87 to Rs. ·81 lakh.

Non-judicial stamps.

228. There was again a rise in the value of non-judicial stamps sold from Rs. 27·55 to Rs. 28·38 lakhs. Nearly all heads, however, except that of impressed stamps show a decrease.

Prosecutions.

229. Prosecutions increased from 904 to 924. In 1916-1917 the number was 1,048. Cases of insufficiently stamped or unstamped documents fell from 2,514 to 2,341. The sum realized in duty or penalty, however, rose from Rs. 27,107 to Rs. 42,331.

42—Assessed Taxes.

(For details see the annual income-tax returns of the province for the year ending 31st March, 1919, and the tables under the head "Income-Tax," Part V (b)—Statistics of British India.)

Income-tax.

230. Income-tax is the only directly assessed tax in the provinces. The net collections during the year rose from Rs. 46·74 lakhs to Rs. 61·77 lakhs. The total demand was Rs. 53·59 lakhs, of which Rs. 53·43 lakhs were collected as against Rs. 39·36 and Rs. 39·23 lakhs respectively in the previous year. The number of objections fell from 8,730 to 5,305 and the percentage of unsuccessful petitions from 73·84 to about 55. Writs of demand and other coercive processes aggregated 2,487 and 7,207 as against 1,121 and 9,017 respectively in the preceding year. The expenditure incurred in assessment and collection increased from Rs. 2,205 to Rs. 1,45,151. The increase was due to the provision in most districts of a wholetime income-tax staff, which was entertained as a temporary measure. Revised proposals have now been made for the creation of a permanent income-tax establishment.

43—Any other taxes levied for imperial purposes.

231. The yield from customs, the whole of which is credited to the Imperial Exchequer, was Rs. 4,40,329 as compared with Rs. 2,70,145 in the previous year. Excise duty on cotton manufactures is the only customs duty levied in these provinces.

44—Forests.

232 The receipts from forests are no longer shared between the Imperial and Provincial revenues, but credited entirely to the latter.

45—Provincial revenues.

(For details see the Government resolution on the provincial revenues of 1918-19.)

Financial position.

233. Though the estimates for the year were based on the assumption that agricultural prospects were normal, cautious figures were, as in previous years, adopted for the revenue heads likely to be affected by the continuance of war conditions, while on the expenditure side all proposals for new charges not immediately remunerative or imperatively necessary were excluded. The circumstances of the year, however, were such that there could not fail to be large variations between the figures of actual receipts and charges and the budget figures. The cessation of hostilities, the scarcity which followed the failure of the monsoon and the widespread influenza epidemic all contributed to this result, and other causes of substantial variations were the new transactions undertaken after the budget had been framed. The budget provided for an opening balance of Rs. 244·94 lakhs, an income of Rs 727·89 lakhs, an expenditure of Rs. 719·32 lakhs and a closing balance of Rs. 253·51 lakhs. The actual opening balance was Rs. 245·24 lakhs, receipts exceeded anticipations by Rs. 35·45 lakhs and the total expenditure rose by Rs. 31·52 lakhs. In the final result, therefore, the variation from the original estimate was not material, for against an anticipated surplus of Rs. 8·57 lakhs, the actual surplus on the year's operations was Rs. 12·50 lakhs. The general

results of the year's transactions as compared with those of the previous year are shown below:—

	1917-18.	1918-19.	Difference.
	Lakhs.	Lakhs.	Lakhs.
Opening balance	192·44	245·24	+52·80
Receipts	730·62	763·34	+32·72
Charges	677·82	750·84	+73·02
Closing balance	245·24	257·74	+12·50

The closing balance of Rs. 257·74 lakhs includes Rs. 49·47 lakhs on account of unspent portions of Imperial grants for education, sanitation, agricultural development, and the general purposes of the administration. There was no change in either the provincial form of accounts or in the terms of the provincial settlement.

234. The larger variations in income are tabulated below:— Receipts.

	Increase. Lakhs.	Decrease. Lakhs.
Land revenue	...	7·77
Transfers between Imperial and Provincial ...	31·46	...
Interest	...	3·06
Jails	3·51	...
Stamps	...	2·83
Excise	11·84	...
Irrigation	8·17	...
Income-tax	7·22	...
Forests	5·20	...

It will be observed that the chief variation was under the head of "Transfers." Additional grants totalling Rs. 19·78 lakhs were received during the year from Imperial, of which Rs. 6·83 lakhs was on account of new transactions undertaken at the instance of the Government of India, for expenditure on the publicity campaign, for the cost of the post of Director of Civil Supplies, and on account of land acquired in the Kumaun division for soldiers. Other special grants were Rs. 3·75 lakhs towards the cost of construction of buildings for industrial education, Rs. 3·70 lakhs for the development of agricultural education, a lakh towards the cost of schemes of improvement in pilgrim centres, and a recurring assignment of Rs. 4·50 lakhs for the development of primary education. The assignment from Provincial to Imperial revenues on account of the additional income derived from the enhanced rates of income-tax imposed in 1916 was Rs. 2·91 lakhs higher than in 1917-18. The chief remaining variation under this head is derived from the terms of the provincial settlement by which the Government of India guarantee a minimum of Rs 240 lakhs in any one year as the provincial share of the divisible income under Land Revenue. The actual decrease in Land Revenue due to the failure of the monsoon was Rs. 29·17 lakhs, but as Rs. 21·40 was received under the transfer head according to this guarantee the net provincial decrease under Land Revenue was only Rs. 7·77 lakhs.

Of the remaining variations the fall in Stamps is due to the decline in litigation. The Excise revenue was the best on record by nearly 10 per cent. which is chiefly accounted for by the prosperity of the consuming classes during the greater portion of the year, by the influenza epidemic, during which country spirit was much used as a preventive, and by overstocking by retail vendors in anticipation of heavy enhancements of duty. The increase under Irrigation is due to the greater demand for water on account of the drought and the rise in the Income-tax receipts may be ascribed to improved assessments by the special staff employed on this work, combined with the increased profits of the trading classes. The increase in the receipts under the head of Forests is due to increased sales of resin and turpentine, to the good price realized for timber, and in part also, to the demands for timbers and sleepers from the Munitions Board and railways.

Expenditure.

235. The more important variations in provincial expenditure are noted below :—

	Increase. Lakhs.	Decrease. Lakhs.
Forests	14·96	...
Education	10·61	...
Jails	4·79	...
Police...	3·18	...
Interest	3·45	...
Public works	4·52	...
Irrigation charges	1·86	...
Courts of law	1·67	...
Miscellaneous	2·42	...
Medical	1·76	...
Sanitation	...	3·33

From the above table has been omitted expenditure corresponding to the special grants already referred to under the head of Transfers. It has been already noted that receipts under the head of Forest exceeded those of the previous year by Rs. 5·20 lakhs. As, however, expenditure was higher by Rs. 14·96 lakhs there was a comparative fall of Rs 9·76 lakhs in the net revenue. The figures are indicative of the efforts made to develop forest resources to the best advantage, and do not accurately reveal the rate of expansion in the working of the department, as no distinction is made in the accounts between recurring and non-recurring expenditure, and all charges whether on capital account or for recurring purposes are lumped together and met from revenue. The large increase under the head of Education is due to large building grants having been made to district boards in connection with the scheme for the extension of primary education. Jail and Medical charges were high owing to the general rise in prices of food, clothing and medicines. The increase under Police is mainly attributable to the increase in the pay of constables and to a special allowance to the armed police force. The increase under Interest charges is due to larger outstandings at the end of the year. Miscellaneous includes a grant of Rs. 2 lakhs to Kumaun district boards and of the substantial rise in Courts of Law nearly half occurs in fees to special counsel. The fall in the charges under Sanitation is unreal, special large grants having been made in the previous year.

Provincial budget.

236. The general results of the year's transactions as compared with the original budget estimate were as follows :—

	Budget. Lakhs.	Accounts. Lakhs.	Difference. Lakhs.
Opening balance	244·94	245·24	+0·30
Receipts	727·89	763·34	+35·45
Charges	719·32	750·84	+31·52
Balance	253·51	257·74	+4·23

In analysing the most striking variations on both sides of the account it will be convenient to exclude the changes due to the transactions undertaken during the course of the year which were not contemplated when the budget was framed. Most of these transactions were undertaken at the instance of the Government of India, who gave assignments through the transfer head to cover the necessary expenditure. Thus assignments for various purposes were received after the year had begun to the amount of Rs. 11·10 lakhs inflating the expenditure by a corresponding sum. Another large item which may be eliminated is an increase of Rs. 3·96 lakhs in receipts of the Jail department due to the supply of blankets for the Army. This resulted in an increase in expenditure under this head of about the same amount. There remains an improvement of Rs. 20·39 lakhs in receipts and an excess of Rs. 16·46 lakhs in expenditure to be accounted for. If the amount received under the transfer head to bring up the divisible share of Land Revenue to the guaranteed minimum is taken away and added to the receipts under Land Revenue, the improvement of Rs. 20·39 lakhs is made up of gross increases totalling Rs. 35·86 lakhs and of decreases amounting to Rs. 15·47 lakhs. Receipts fell below expectations mainly under the heads of Land Revenue by Rs. 7·90 lakhs, Stamps by Rs. 5·56 lakhs, and Interest by Rs. 1·33 lakhs. The causes

have been already dealt with. The largest improvement over the budget figure occurs under Irrigation, of Rs. 11·48 lakhs, due to the great demand for water, particularly in the second half of the year. The next largest increase is under Income Tax, of Rs. 6·29 lakhs; in the budget some improvement was anticipated and the further increase is due to improved assessments and trade prosperity. Excise and Forest exceeded anticipations by Rs. 6·20 and Rs. 5·37 lakhs respectively. Other variations are of a minor character, with the exception of an increase of Rs. 4·93 lakhs under the transfer head, due to the receipt of various assignments from the Government of India, chiefly for industrial development and agricultural education.

The real increase in expenditure of Rs. 16·46 lakhs, or, leaving out of account the increase of Rs. 3·64 lakhs under ordinary interest charges, of Rs. 12.82 lakhs over the budgetted expenditure, is made up of gross increases amounting to Rs. 29·67 lakhs under various heads and reductions of about Rs. 17 lakhs under other heads. The variations under some of the detailed heads, particularly those of Education and Agriculture, are partly nominal, being due to the transfer of lump allotments from these portions of the budget to the Public Works portions for the carrying out of particular works. Other variations are due to the distribution in the figures of actual expenditure of the amount of grain compensation allowance under the particular heads, whereas in the budget a lump allotment of Rs. 8 lakhs was provided for the purpose under the Miscellaneous head. Leaving these nominal variations out of account, the most prominent increase in expenditure was that of Rs. 10·83 lakhs under Forest. Under Sanitation there was an increase of Rs. 2·28 lakhs, due to a larger grant to the Sadabart Fund for the improvement of the pilgrim routes and to heavy outlay on prophylactic and other measures on the occasion of the influenza outbreak, while a rise in Medical and Jail charges is in the main attributable to the high prices of food-stuffs, medicines, clothing, and other requirements. Under Education the increase is explained by the substantial grants made late in the year towards the building section of the programme for the expansion of primary education. Direct famine charges amounted to Rs. 3·13 lakhs. Irrigation interest shows an increase of Rs. 1·86 lakhs over the budget estimate. Of reductions in expenditure the more prominent are Rs. 2·02 lakhs under Agriculture due to lapses in the wheat profits grant for agricultural improvements, and Rs. 2·99 lakhs under Irrigation departmental charges owing to the special provision for a dépôt for surplus stores not having been utilized. Superannuation charges fell short by nearly a lakh, while under Police there was a decrease of Rs. 2·90 lakhs owing to the deputation of officers to military duty and to smaller outlay on the force in consequence of the formation of police battalions for military service. Large lapses also occurred in the original allotment for public works expenditure.

46—Local Revenues.

(For details see the report on Local Funds for the year 1918-19 *and the annual report on the working of the district boards for the year ending* 31*st March,* 1919.*)*

237. The opening balance of excluded local funds was Rs. 52·81 lakhs. Receipts amounted to Rs. 165·75 lakhs and expenditure to Rs. 169·58 lakhs, as compared with Rs. 141·89 lakhs and Rs. 174 lakhs respectively in 1917-18, leaving a closing balance of Rs. 48·98 lakhs. The only change during the year was the abolition of the Police Remount Fund. There is a debit balance against this fund which is due to large refunds of entrance donations having been made to sowars in certain districts. It will be adjusted when verification of the figures is complete. All other funds are solvent. The finances of the district boards which form by far the most important item have been dealt with in Chapter III of this report. The differences shown above between the figures for the year under review and those for the previous year are mainly the result of the variations in the district boards funds. The other chief heads were the cantonment,

town and bazar, medical and charitable, and educational funds. The cantonment fund opened with a balance of Rs. 3·34 lakhs, received Rs 11·90 lakhs and expended Rs. 12·72 lakhs. The corresponding figures for the town and bazar funds were Rs. 2·53, Rs. 5·67 and Rs. 5·38 lakhs respectively. Medical and charitable funds started with a balance of Rs. 4·20 lakhs, received Rs. 4·24 lakhs and expended Rs. 7·55 lakhs. The educational funds consisted of the Lyall Collegiate School Fund, Gonda, and the Colvin Institute Fund, Sitapur. The totals for the combined opening balance, receipts and charges were Rs. 6,802, Rs. 49,566 and Rs. 38,242 respectively. The number of towns under the operation of Act II of 1914 was 277.

47—Municipal Fund.

(For details see the annual review of municipal administration for the year ending 31st March, 1919.)

238. The aggregate balance of the municipalities of the province at the close of the previous year was Rs. 39·58 lakhs. There was however a reduction in the opening balance of the year under review due to later adjustments in the closing balance of last year of certain municipalities in the Meerut division. Receipts and expenditure during the year, including loans and deposits, totalled Rs. 122·66 and Rs. 130·53 lakhs respectively and the actual closing balance was Rs. 28 lakhs. The income from the 50 notified areas in the United Provinces, excluding the opening balance, increased from Rs. 4 lakhs to Rs. 5·98 lakhs and their expenditure from Rs. 4·71 to Rs. 5·28 lakhs; their closing balance rose from Rs. 1·09 lakhs to 1·85 lakhs.

CHAPTER VI.—VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICES.

48—Details of census.

(See under "Details of the last census." Chapter I of the report for 1911.)

49—Births and deaths.

(For details see the annual report of the Sanitary Commissioner for the year ending 31st December, 1918, and the tables under the head "Vital Statistics." Part V—Statistics of British India.)

Births.

239. The total number of births registered during the year was 1,867,844 as compared with 2,157,642 in the preceding year and the rate fell from 46·08 to 39·89. This low rate is attributed generally to the extreme unhealthiness of the year and to the exceptionally bad economic conditions that prevailed. It may also, to some extent, be accounted for by the fact that many adult males were absent on military duty either as combatants or non-combatants. September was, as usual, the most prolific month. The proportion of male to female births was 109·68: 100—a slight increase in the ratio of male to female births on recent years. Twenty-five districts show a birth rate above and 23 below the provincial average. Of the districts showing high birth rates, Hamirpur stands first with 51·91 and is followed in the order noted by Farrukhabad, Jhansi, Shahjahanpur, Sitapur and Bijnor. The lowest birth rates were recorded in Naini Tal, Dehra Dun and Mut ra. In 1917 also Hamirpur showed the highest birth rate and Dehra Dun and Naini Tal the lowest. The low birth rate in Muttra this year is attributed to the high death rate among pregnant women from influenza. In municipalities the birth rate per thousand fell from 47·92 to 41·75. Taking into consideration the extreme unhealthiness of the year the rate may be regarded as satisfactory. In 42 municipalities out of 83 the birth rate was higher and in 41 lower than the provincial average for municipal areas Of the municipalities showing high birth rates Firozabad again heads the list with 66·02 and is followed by Najibabad with 53·90. Mussoorie is again at the bottom of the list with 10·76 and in Lakhimpur and Naini Tal the rate was only 17·06 and 19·42 respectively. The seasonal fluctuation in population accounts for the low birth rates at Mussoorie and Naini Tal. In Lakhimpur the low birth rate is attributed to the increased mortality from

relapsing fever and influenza and also, to some extent, to defective registration. In the 49 notified areas 14,457 births were registered giving a birth rate of 41·47 against 16,110 and 46·21 respectively in the same areas in 1917.

Deaths.

240. The total number of deaths registered during the year amounted to 3,856,762 as compared with 1,774,896 during the previous year and 1,552,379 the average of the previous five years. The rate per thousand was 82·37 as against 37·91 in 1917 and 33·15 the mean for the previous five years. The cause of this enormous rise is to be found in the great epidemic of influenza in the autumn and to the epidemics of cholera, plague and relapsing fever which occurred during the early part of the year. Among the districts showing high mortality Agra stands first with a death rate of 143·81 and is followed by Aligarh with 114·37. Farrukhabad 113·11, and Shahjahanpur with 109·68, Sultanpur with 108·89, Bijnor with 108·78 and Muttra with 105·62. The most noticeable feature of the year is that the death rate exceeded the birth rate in every district, the districts named above being most conspicuous in this respect, though in none of them except Agra, Aligarh, and Muttra was the birth rate low. The total number of deaths recorded in municipal areas was 236,419 as compared with 137,661 in 1917, the death rate being 80·94 and 47·13 respectively. The municipalities which recorded markedly high death rates were Firozabad with a death rate of 146·49, Agra with 128·95 and Atrauli with 115·45. The municipalities showing the lowest death rates were Mussoorie with 12·93, Naini Tal with 20·71, and Lakhimpur with 24·84. As already noted, these municipalities also recorded the lowest birth rates. In all municipalities, as in all districts, the death rate was in excess of the birth rate. In the 49 notified areas 24,938 deaths were recorded against 14,320 in the same areas in the preceding year, the death rates being 71·54 and 41·08 respectively. Fatehpur-Sikri and Kosi show the highest mortality. The general health of the provinces was, compared with the preceding year, bad during every month. This was due to the prevalance of epidemic plague and relapsing fever from January to May, of cholera from May to August, and of widespread influenza from October to December. September was the healthiest month with a rate of 2·74. Previously May with a rate of 5·55 had been the most unhealthy month. From October, however, the curve rose sharply; in that month the rate was 6·16 and in November, the highest mortality of the year, 22·29 was recorded, followed by 17·44 in December. The number of deaths among males was 2,006,883 and 1,849,879 among females against 933,723 and 841,173 respectively in 1917. The total mortality was thus higher among males than among females but more females died between the ages of five and forty. The rate of infantile mortality rose from 215·7 to 303·5. During the past 28 years, the infantile mortality has only once been higher, viz, in 1908, a year of great malarial incidence, when it was 345·1. Deaths among infants in 1918 numbered 566,833, an increase of 101,366 over the figures of the previous year, but less by 49,846 than those of the year 1908. The percentage of deaths from tetanus to the total infantile mortality again declined. Efforts in various directions for the reduction of infantile mortality are being continued and new measures devised. Agra heads the list of the districts showing a high mortality among infants with a death rate of 456·77 per 1,000 of births. Sultanpur comes next with 426·39 and is followed in the order named by Partabgarh, Cawnpore, Bijnor, Aligarh and Bulandshahr. Almora, Ballia and Gorakhpur show the lowest mortality. In municipalities the worst record is held by Budaun with an infantile death rate of 753·15. Next in order come Cawnpore, Etawah, Jalesar and Firozabad.

Registration of vital statistics.

241. The vaccination staff tested 181,068 more entries than in the preceding year. The percentage of omissions discovered in birth entries was ·36 and in death entries ·31 as compared with ·38 and ·23 respectively in 1917. Local authorities tested 758,231 entries as compared with 708,435 in 1917. The percentage of omissions discovered by them in birth registration was 2·82 and in death registration 3·31 against 2·61 and 1·97 respectively in the preceding year. The number of persons fined for neglect in compliance with registration rules fell from 2,982 to 2,395.

Cholera.

242. The year was marked by a severe outbreak of cholera which caused 119,746 deaths against 21,440 in the previous year, the rate being 2·56 as compared with ·46 in 1917 and 1·02, the average for the preceding five years. The minimum mortality occurred in February in which month only 98 deaths were recorded. The numbers then rose rapidly and reached the maximum in June when there were 37,318 deaths. In the second half of the year there was some decline, but several thousand deaths occurred in each month. The disease increased in virulence with the advent of the hot weather and prevailed to more or less extent till the end of the year. The highest mortality was recorded in Partabgarh and next on the list come Sultanpur, Jaunpur, Rae Bareli, Gorakhpur and Benares. The districts returning the lowest death rates were Muzaffarnagar, Hamirpur, Etawah and Jhansi; while the district of Jalaun was altogether free from the disease. On previous occasions outbreaks of cholera have frequently originated from *Kumbh Melas*, but the Allahabad *Kumbh Mela* was free from epidemic disease and it is certain that cholera was not spread from there by the home-going pilgrims. Unfavourable climatic conditions were chiefly responsible for the persistence and spread of the epidemic throughout the year. The intense heat of the hot weather months and the failure of the rains undoubtedly led to deficiency in and contamination of many water supplies. Owing to the shortage of bleaching powder the required quantities could not in all cases be supplied on requisition and it would not therefore be fair to draw conclusive inferences regarding the effect of the "cholera scheme" on the incidence of the disease. It is hoped that before very long permanganate of potash will again become available in sufficient quantity and at such a price as to permit of its being substituted for bleaching powder which undoubtedly is a far less efficient agent in the prevention of cholera.

Small-pox.

243. The total mortality registered in 1918 from small-pox was 2,908 equivalent to a death rate of ·06 per thousand, which although higher than the rate for the previous year, was lower than the mean ratio during the preceding quinquennium. As in 1917, the mortality was lowest in October; 405 deaths occurred in May which had returned the highest mortality in the previous year. This year, however, the disease attained its maximum intensity in December, when 885 deaths occurred from this cause. Only two districts, namely Bijnor and Fatehpur, were quite free from the disease and 40 towns out of 93. Cawnpore, Bahraich, Gorakhpur, Allahabad, Farrukhabad and Jhansi among districts and Cawnpore, Hapur, Farrukhabad, Jhansi and Allahabad among towns had the highest rates.

Plague.

244. The plague epidemic of 1918 yielded a mortality rate of 3·73 per thousand against 2·76 in 1917 and a quinquennial average of 1·91. After a steady decline for some years the disease re-appeared with increased virulence during 1917 and continued during the early part of 1918 with great severity. From April of that year, however, the climatic conditions were unfavourable to its spread and the second half of the year was practically free from it. In March, the month of maximum intensity, 48,800 deaths were recorded and in September only 83—the minimum figure for the year. As last year, the districts of Almora and Garhwal were completely free from the disease and, as last year also, Ghazipur, Ballia, and Azamgarh returned the highest death rates. Among towns 14 were quite free and in 21 the number of deaths did not exceed 10. Of the remainder the most infected were Hasanpur, Hapur and Jaunpur. The number of persons inoculated again rose from 81,126 to 100,019, 51,002 inoculations being performed through the agency of travelling dispensaries. The largest number of inoculations was done in Gorakhpur and Ballia, which usually heads the list, took the second place.

Fever.

245. Under the head of "Fever" a total of 3,217,678 deaths was registered against 1,266,519 in 1917, the death rate being 68·72 against 27·05 in the previous year and a quinquennial mean of 23·02. This great rise was undoubtedly due to the widespread epidemic of influenza, although under this head are also included deaths from many other causes in which fever is a predominating symptom. The mortality was lowest in September with 98,141 deaths: November recorded the highest number with 998,171 deaths. More than two million deaths occurred during the

last quarter of the year—a clear indication that influenza was the primary cause. Among districts Agra with a rate of 127·58 heads the list and is followed by Aligarh, Shahjahanpur and Bulandshahr. The districts with a low mortality were Almora, Ballia and Gorakhpur. Among towns Firozabad stood first with a death rate of 112·74; Jalesar, Kasganj, Khurja and Soron come next; while the towns showing the lowest mortality were Azamgarh, Ballia, Lakhimpur, Mau and Ghazipur. The Malarial department had to be closed during the previous year owing to the war and consequently no investigation or demonstration work could be undertaken during the year under report. The anti-malarial works at Saharanpur were completed during the year and those at Meerut closed. Some progress was made with the schemes at Kosi and Nagina. The number of three-rupee and five-rupee packets of quinine sold during the year was 1,649 and 348 respectively as compared with 2,058 one-rupee packets, 1,023 three-rupee packets, and 560 five-rupee packets sold in 1917. Relapsing fever prevailed to a greater or less extent in the districts of Meerut, Agra, Lakhimpur, Allahabad and the Kumaun divisions, and in the districts of Banda, Lucknow, Sitapur and Kheri. It was more severe in the first half of the year than in the second half, the last quarter being practically free from the disease.

Dysentery, diarrhoea and respiratory diseases.

246. Deaths from dysentery and diarrhoea totalled 21,266 against 22,308 in 1917, the death rates being ·45 and ·48 respectively and the quinquennial average ·40 per mille. The mortality was highest in July and lowest in February. Garhwal, as usual, stands first on the list of districts having a high mortality and is followed by Lucknow, Almora, Benares and Dehra Dun in the order named. Kheri, Basti, Mainpuri and Ghazipur were the most fortunate districts. Of towns, Lucknow returned the highest death rate and next on the list come Hardoi, Chandausi, Farrukhabad and Meerut. Seven did not return any deaths at all and in 10 the number did not exceed 10. Diseases of the respiratory organs accounted for 32,010 deaths as compared with 28,926 in 1917, the death rates being ·68 and ·62 respectively and the quinquennial average ·53. As noted, however, in the previous years, the figures are not absolutely reliable and it is useless to examine them critically. There is no doubt that this year many deaths from influenza were registered under this head.

Injuries.

247. There was a slight increase in the number of deaths from injuries, the rise being from 26,753 to 26,882. Suicides increased from 2,404 to 3,286, no less than 2,388 of which were among females. Agra, Meerut, Azamgarh, Hardoi and Aligarh returned the greatest number. Six thousand seven-hundred and twenty-five deaths were caused by snakes and wild beasts against 6,807 in the preceding year; while deaths from rabies fell from 259 to 227.

Deaths from other causes.

248. Deaths from other causes fell from 277,855 to 261,467. The decrease of 16,388 practically corresponds with the fall in mortality from measles, which is included under this head, this disease causing 9,753 deaths as compared with 32,418 in 1917.

50—Emigration and Immigration.

(For details see the annual report on the working in the United Provinces of the Assam Labour and Emigration Act, VI of 1901, *for the year ending the* 30*th of June,* 1919, *the annual report on emigration from the port of Calcutta to British and Foreign Colonies for* 1918, *and the tables under the head "Emigration," Part V—Statistics for British India.)*

Foreign emigration.

249. There was no recruiting of emigrants during the year for British and Foreign Colonies, emigration of indentured labourers from India being prohibited under the Defence of India Rules. Four hundred and fifty-two emigrants returned as against 1,313 in 1917 and the average savings brought by them amounted to Rs. 173 per emigrant as compared with Rs. 269 in the previous year. There was a decrease in the average remittances per resident Indian immigrant in respect of all the Colonies during the year. The average, as in the previous year, was again highest in the case of the Colony of Natal, but it is probable that the Natal figures include remittances by

traders and other immigrants who are not labourers. The total amount of savings of the resident Indian immigrants increased in the case of Mauritius and decreased in the case of the Colonies of Trinidad, Fiji, Jamaica and Natal. The decrease in the case of Fiji and Jamaica is attributed to circumstances arising out of the war.

Inland emigration.

250. Recruiting under Chapter IV of the Assam Labour and Emigration Act, VI of 1901, was carried on in 19 districts. The total number of coolies recruited increased from 2,839 to 9,406. The increase is attributed chiefly to the prevailing high prices of food-grains and other necessities of life, the larger number of recruiters employed, and the decrease of recruitment for military purposes. A fall occurred in the recruitment of Nepalese subjects from the Gorakhpur district from 965 to 785. This was due to the fact that recruitment was confined to the last two months of the year. As usual, Gorakhpur and Basti supplied by far the greater number of the recruits and Mirzapur comes next on the list. No case of infringement of the rules was observed.

Immigration.

251. No statistics are available.

51—Medical relief.

(For details see the annual report on the administration of civil hospitals for the year ending 31st December, 1918, and the tables under the head "Hospitals"—Part V—Statistics of British India.)

Dispensaries.

252. At the beginning of the year there were 642 hospitals and dispensaries of all classes open and 645 at the end. Four new institutions were opened—all local fund dispensaries—and one—a canal dispensary—was closed. A larger number of dispensaries would have been opened but for the depletion of the staff on account of the war. Of the 14 dispensaries temporarily closed in 1917, nine remained closed during 1918, and the remaining five were re-opened. The number of patients treated at State-public, local fund and private-aided dispensaries and hospitals was much the same as in the previous year, namely, 5,351,550 against 5,352,318 in 1917. There was an increase in the attendance at district board travelling dispensaries and a decrease in the attendance at standing dispensaries, the reason for which is to be found in the fact that travelling dispensaries were largely employed during the influenza epidemic. The indoor attendance decreased from 81,364 to 81,354, and the outdoor attendance decreased by 758. At female dispensaries, the indoor attendance fell from 17,832 to 17,077, but the outdoor attendance rose from 403,577 to 406,180. The number of travelling dispensaries rose from 87 to 110, and the total number of persons treated by them from 619,003 to 835,328.

Financial.

253. The total income of the hospitals and dispensaries was Rs. 19,20,308, as compared with Rs. 20,18,309, in 1917. Expenditure fell from Rs. 17,80,039 to Rs. 17,49,353, the closing balance at the end of the year being Rs. 1,70,955 against an opening balance of Rs. 2,56,440 at the beginning of the year. Local fund contributions fell from Rs. 9,20,834 to Rs. 8,47,835, and the municipal fund contributions from Rs. 1,03,732 to Rs. 1,02,776. The receipts from Europeans rose from Rs. 24,423 to Rs. 28,657, while those from Indians decreased from Rs. 1,29,541 to Rs. 1,16,284. The cost of European medicines increased by Rs. 6,000 and of bazar medicines by nearly Rs. 2,000. Diet charges increased by Rs. 16,000. The invested capital at the close of the year was Rs. 16,82,358, against an opening balance of Rs. 16,52,177.

General.

254. The number of students on the rolls of King George's Medical College at the close of the year was 128 against 133 in 1917. The results of the University examinations were again highly creditable to the staff. Seventeen students out of 30 passed the first M.B., B.S., examination. All the students who appeared for the examination passed the final M.B., B.S., group A examination, and 34 out of 37 passed the final M.B., B.S., group B examination. A change was effected during the year, in the administration of the Medical School at Agra by the separation of the male and female

branches. The designation of the female school was changed to "Women's Medical School." There was an increase in the number of students. The King Edward Sanatorium at Bhowali and the Tuberculosis Hospital at Lucknow continued to do good work. The total number of officers belonging to the Medical department still on military duty is 246. The absence of these officials naturally caused some dislocation of medical work, but the difficulty was overcome, as far as possible, by the employment of temporary men, most of whom, in the case of substitutes for sub-assistant surgeons, were compounders and unqualified.

52—Sanitation.

(For details see the annual report of the Sanitary Commissioner for the year ending the 31st December, 1918, the annual report of the Sanitary Engineer, for the year ending 31st March, 1919, and the tables under the head "Area, population, and public health," Part V—Statistics of British India.)

Municipalities.

255. The total expenditure on works of a sanitary nature, exclusive of the cost of preparation of schemes, under the supervision of the Sanitary Engineer, amounted to Rs. 15·67 lakhs, as compared with Rs. 16·18 lakhs in the previous year. Of this sum, Rs. 6·70 lakhs was spent on original sanitary works and Rs. 8·96 lakhs, on the maintenance and repairs of open water-works. Nearly Rs. two lakhs of the total expenditure on water-works was incurred in Agra; Allahabad was responsible for Rs. 74,180 and Haldwani for Rs. 40,608. The total expenditure on drainage works was Rs. 1·89 lakhs, of which Agra accounted for Rs. 55,673, Lucknow for Rs. 33,193, and Mussoorie for Rs. 32,155. The municipalities mainly responsible for the expenditure on the maintenance of water-works were, as last year, Agra, Allahabad, Benares, Cawnpore and Lucknow, each of which expended over a lakh. Work on tube-wells continued, but boring work was hindered by difficulty in obtaining material and tools. Considerable progress was made with various schemes. Projects to the value of nearly Rs. 40 lakhs were finally sanctioned during the year and schemes to the value of over Rs. 50 lakhs were completed and submitted for sanction. In addition, preliminary estimates to the value of Rs. 44 lakhs were submitted and work was in hand on projects to the approximate amount of Rs. 140 lakhs.

Fairs.

256. The great *Kumbh Mela* at Allahabad took place at the beginning of the year. The sanitary and medical arrangements, which were much more complete and elaborate than those made for any previous *Kumbh Melas*, proved, in practically all respects, thoroughly efficient and satisfactory. Although there was plague in the Allahabad city, no epidemic broke out in the fair area: a few cases, however, of infectious diseases were imported. The Dikhauti Fair at Hardar, the Dadri Fair at Ballia, the Garhmuktesar Fair in the Meerut district, the Tigri Fair in the Moradabad district, the Ram Naumi Fair at Ajodhya, the Shakamber Devi Fair in the Saharanpur district, the Misrikh Paikarma Fair in the Sitapur district,—all passed off without the outbreak of any epidemic. There were a few cases of cholera which did not spread.

Sanitary Board.

257. The designation of the Sanitary Board was, during the year, changed to "Board of Public Health." The total amount at the disposal of the Board for expenditure on sanitary works aggregated to Rs. 7,34,890. Rs. 6,64,341 were allotted by the Board and grants to the total amount of over Rs. 15 lakhs were sanctioned by Government. Projects aggregating over Rs. 45 lakhs were either administratively sanctioned or approved by the Board. Proposals for other works were approved and entered on the programme of sanitary works for preparation of estimates.

General.

258. As noted last year, owing to the absence of officers on military duty and the consequent difficulty of providing qualified lecturers, the sanitary class was not held in the session 1917-18.

53—Vaccination.

(For details see the annual report on vaccination for the year ending the 31st March, 1919, and the tables under the head "Vaccination," Part V—Statistics of British India.)

Establishment and charges.

259. The number of assistant superintendents of vaccination remained the same as in the previous year, namely 49, but the number of vaccinators increased from 915 to 922. The total expenditure increased from Rs. 2,46,577 to Rs. 2,68,243, the increase being due to various causes.

Vaccinations.

260. There was a decrease from 1,685,153 to 1,420,332 in the total number of vaccination operations. Of this total, 1,273,821 were primary and 146,511 re-vaccinations, as compared with 1,572,818 and 112,335 respectively in the preceding year. The decrease of 298,997 in the number of primary operations was mainly due to the outbreak of the influenza epidemic at the beginning of the vaccination season and its continued prevalence for some months. Wherever the disease broke out in an epidemic form vaccination had to be temporarily stopped and vaccinators were supplied with medicines and employed on itinerating medical work. In addition to this a considerable proportion of children was incapacitated for vaccination by the disease and in several districts work was dislocated by the illness of a large number of vaccinators. The increase in the number of re-vaccinations is due to the fact that a large number of operations was performed owing to the outbreak of small-pox in many places. The percentage of successful primary vaccinations and re-vaccinations was 97·09 and 65·56 as compared with 97·40 and 72·50 respectively in the previous year. The number of persons successfully vaccinated was 27·84 per thousand as against 33·95. The decrease was general except in the districts of Almora and Mirzapur. In Almora the number per thousand was 54·37. In Garhwal, which usually heads the list, the number fell from 65·66 to 48·75. The districts returning a low number of successful primary vaccinations are Dehra Dun, Naini Tal, Muttra and Jalaun. The percentages of successful vaccination in proportion to births show a decrease under all heads as compared with the preceding year, which is attributed to high mortality among children. The average cost of each successful case of vaccination was Re. 0-2-7 as against Re. 0-2-0 in the preceding year, the increase being due to the rise in expenditure and the decrease in the number of operations.

Inspections.

261. The Deputy Sanitary Commissioners and the District Superintendents of Vaccination inspected 171,426 primary vaccinations against 257,858 in the preceding year. The decrease was due to the shortage of staff on account of the war and the outbreak of influenza. There was, however, an increase in the number of re-vaccinations inspected by these officers. The percentage of cases found successful rose from 97·34 to 97·49 for primary vaccinations and from 65·55 to 60·70 for re-vaccinations. The Assistant Superintendents and other inspecting officers also inspected fewer vaccinations during the year, inspections by them being 571,386 as compared with 698,952 the year before. The percentage of cases found successful was 96·83 for primary vaccinations and 58·42 for re-vaccinations as against 96·42 and 65·38 in 1916-17.

Lymph.

262. The Provincial Bovine Lymph Dépôt at Patwa Dangar in the Naini Tal district issued 91,658 grammes of lymph as against 86,658 grammes in the previous year. The expenditure increased from Rs. 21,910 to Rs. 25,297 while the sale proceeds of lymph amounted to Rs. 30,436 against Rs. 30,002 in 1917-18.

CHAPTER VII.—INSTRUCTION.

54—General system of education.

(See page 81 of the report for the year 1911-12.)

55—Education.

(For details see the quinquennial report on public instruction for the period ending 31st March, 1919, and the tables under the head "Education," Part VII—Statistics of British India.)

General.

263. Although hostilities ceased during the year, the conditions which were brought about by the war underwent little change. Out of a cadre of

37 only 18 Indian Educational Service Officers remained to do the work of the department and the staffs of aided colleges were similarly affected. Much useful help in recruiting was given by all classes of educational officers including many teachers in vernacular schools, and large sums were collected for the various funds. A notable feature of the year was the publicity work undertaken by the Educational department through the medium of a Publicity Bureau and a War Journal which at once achieved a remarkable success. The statistics of the year do not show a very considerable advance on those of the previous year. In view, however, of the influenza epidemic and the failure of the monsoon, both of which severely affected these provinces, it is remarkable that any progress at all can be recorded. The year saw the completion of a fresh survey of the primary education field and the launching of a further campaign for the expansion of elementary education. The programme covers a period of three years and provides for doubling the number of scholars within this period.

Number of institutions and scholars.

264. The number of public institutions rose by 717 and of scholars in them by 16,116, while private institutions show a decrease of 723 schools and 9,695 scholars. The total number of scholars rose from 918,258 to 924,679. Private institutions appear to have been affected by the adverse economic and climatic conditions of the year to a greater extent than public institutions. That progress was not greater in the latter must, however, be attributed to the same causes.

Expenditure.

265. The total expenditure on education from all sources increased from Rs. 1,52,89,179 to Rs. 1,72,37,450. The expenditure from provincial revenues increased from Rs. 56,52,038 to Rs. 56,90,327 and that from district and municipal funds from Rs. 32,08,052 to Rs. 33,38,328 and from Rs. 5,24,255 to Rs. 5,71,742 respectively.

University.

266. There is nothing very important to record of general interest under this head. Of the 3,913 matriculation candidates, 1,370 passed as compared with 1,066 out of 5,126 last year. The fall in the number of candidates for this examination is particularly striking and is partly due to the superior attractions of the S. L. C. Examination. In the Intermediate Examination 980 passed out of 2,198 as compared with 1,136 out of 2,343 in the previous year. The results of the other chief University Examinations were as follows:—For the B. A., 489 passed out of 1,538; for the Previous LL.B., 334 out of 552; for the Final LL.B., 390 out of 577; and for the B. Sc., 92 out of 209. There was thus a fairly general decline in the number of candidates, the total being 9,612 as compared with 10,879 in 1917-18. Results, however, with the exception of the Intermediate Examination, were rather better. The fall in the number of candidates is partly attributable to the influenza epidemic. The total income of the University was Rs. 3,23,505 against Rs. 3,27,329 in 1917 and the total expenditure Rs. 3,28,561 against Rs. 3,08,540.

Collegiate education

267. The number of colleges continued unchanged, but the number of students decreased from 5,064 to 4,773. The decline is partly due to the new University regulations which allow an undergraduate who has failed twice to appear as a private candidate while keeping his name on the books of a college and partly to the low percentage of passes in the 1918 Matriculation and S. L. C. Examinations. But high prices and the influenza epidemic also contributed to the fall. The war continued adversely to affect the staff of colleges, but the position improved towards the end of the year and a return to normal conditions will soon take place. A large proportion of the students of Arts colleges are now in residence, but the demand for hostel accommodation is not yet satisfied. St. Andrew's College at Gorakhpur, the two colleges at Agra and the Canning College, Lucknow, are all contemplating new hostels, and have only been prevented from building by the adverse condition brought about by the war. The Sanskrit College, Benares, is the only institution classified as an Oriental College Oriental Schools teaching Arabic and Persian number 358 as against 344 last year, but enrolment decreased from 9,801 to 8,843. The number of Sanskrit Pathshalas further diminished by 21 to 454, and the number of students in them by 338 to 9,282. Three thousand, nine hundred and seventy-eight

candidates appeared at the Benares Sanskrit College examinations as compared with 3,603 in 1918. The quality of Sanskrit Pathshalas varies according to their foundation. Those which owe their existence to a religious Pandit eager to impart knowledge of the sacred texts and those established by societies or local committees interested in the promotion of Sanskrit studies are usually working on sound lines. Those which are merely endowed by the charitably disposed are generally useless, while the state of those established merely to bring the founder's name into honourable repute depends on the continuance or non-continuance of his interest in them.

A scheme for Arabic and Persian examinations drawn up by the Inspector of Arabic Madrassas has received the approval of Government. The courses hitherto prescribed for the examinations have hitherto been unacceptable to Madrassas and the examinations have in consequence attracted few candidates. The Inspector has recommended financial assistance for a number of Madrassas, but with the limited funds available little progress in this direction has so far been possible.

The number of Law schools and classes remained unchanged, but enrolment fell from 786 to 551. This is attributed to sickness, the small number of passes in the Previous LL. B., in 1918, the restriction against graduates of other Universities joining the Law school and the abolition of pleadership classes.

The enrolment of the Medical College, Lucknow, showed no change, remaining at 138. There were no women students and the number of Muhammadans fell from seven to five. The results of the University examinations continue to be very satisfactory. Expenditure on collegiate education rose by Rs. 13,106 to Rs. 11,74,077. The percentage met from fees is stationary at 35, while the cost per scholar has gone up from Rs. 236 to Rs. 240 per annum, a figure which is still below that for the year 1916-17 when it was Rs. 249.

Secondary education.

268. The number of secondary public schools for Indian boys again rose from 650 to 664, while the number of scholars fell from 91,177 to 89,037. The number of high schools increased by four and the number of vernacular middle schools by 11, while Anglo-Vernacular middle schools decreased by one. The decrease in the number of scholars is almost entirely in the Anglo-Vernacular schools which show 1,956 fewer scholars; while vernacular middle schools show a drop of 184 scholars only. The decrease is attributable to the influenza epidemic. That it has not been greater in vernacular middle schools is due to the larger number of new schools opened during the year. Expenditure on secondary schools for Indian boys rose by Rs. 2,32,238 to Rs. 32,79,494, the rise being due to the increased number of schools, enhancement of the salaries of teachers, higher grants to aided schools, higher prices of materials, and the payment of increased grain compensation allowance. Fee income fell by Rs. 14,351, this being due to the fall in enrolment. The average cost of education in Government Anglo-Vernacular schools was Rs. 57·2, against Rs. 52·6 last year, of which Rs. 24·9 is paid by the scholar. In aided schools the corresponding figures of expenditure and fees are Rs. 46·7 and Rs. 23·3. The number of students who appeared in the S.L.C. and Matriculation examinations combined was 8,614 against 8,658. In view of the conditions of the year the fall cannot be taken as an indication of any slackening in the demand for secondary Anglo-Vernacular education. The number of passes in the two examinations combined was 4,023 against 2,070 last year. The increase is due to the fact that a low percentage of passes one year results in a large number of the marginal failures of that year appearing in the following year with twelve months' extra study to their credit. The S.L.C. examination, the passing of which is now necessary to all who wish to enter Government service at this stage, grows in popularity at the expense of the Matriculation. Four thousand seven hundred and one candidates were registered against 3,532 last year and 2,653 passed against 1,004, the percentage of passes being thus double. Twenty-six schools were recognized and sent up candidates for this examination for the first time—a large proportional increase in a total of 127. The majority, however, of these newly recognized schools did badly. They have not had time to adapt themselves to the

requirements of the examination and the difficulty of obtaining trained teachers is an obstacle in the way of improvement. In the Vernacular Final examination 10,194 candidates appeared as against 8,601 in 1918, but only 5,672 passed as against 6,377 in that year. The increase in the number of candidates seem to show that the apprehension that the 3 year course introduced in 1916-17 would lead to a considerable and permanent decrease in the number appearing for this examination was not well-founded.

As already noted the difficulty of obtaining an adequate supply of well qualified teachers for the secondary Anglo-Vernacular schools is still very great. Substantial improvement has been effected in the pay of teachers since 1914, but the rise in prices which has since occurred has in a great measure discounted the benefit which was anticipated. Of the 3,369 teachers in secondary Anglo-Vernacular schools for boys only 764 are trained, and of these 551 are in Government or Local Board schools. Aided schools are finding it particularly difficult to obtain trained teachers. The conditions brought about by the war have delayed the opening of more training colleges. There is much lee-way to be made up and the question of providing further facilities for training is now under consideration. In secondary vernacular schools the majority of the teachers are trained or partly trained. There has so far been no lack of qualified recruits, but if this position is to continue, the conditions of service will have to be further revised.

In spite of the adverse conditions created by the war new buildings for the Government High Schools at Cawnpore, Etawah, Fyzabad and Bara Banki were proceeded with and had been nearly completed by the close of the year. Aided schools continued to improve their buildings with the help of grants-in-aid, but in not a few cases larger works were postponed in view of the unfavourable conditions. As regards secondary vernacular school buildings it is estimated that new building or extensions are immediately required in the case of nearly 300 hostels and 184 school buildings.

The year saw the initiation of several important developments which will in time profoundly affect secondary education. The most far-reaching of these, perhaps, is the decision to add intermediate classes to certain of the larger Government high schools. Hardly less important is the decision to introduce compulsory courses in elementary science into the curriculum for Anglo-Verncaular secondary schools and to make English an optional subject for the Vernacular Final examination.

Primary education.

269. The total number of primary and preparatory schools of all kinds rose by 671 to 12,653 and scholars by 18,913 to 725,642. Though the rate of increase shown last year has not been maintained, it is satisfactory, in view of the widespread distress caused by relapsing fever, plague, scarcity and influenza, that so much progress has been made. It is somewhat disquieting that, while the total number of scholars in preparatory sections has risen by 18,646, the number in the upper primary sections has fallen by 1,409. The true test of the success of efforts to spread primary education is the number of those who complete the full primary course. It is to be feared that there is little justification at present for the hope that the tendency to withdraw children from the schools at a very early age will be overcome merely by an extension of facilities. Until the economic condition of the rural population permits of a reasonable expenditure upon education and of the retention of the children at school beyond the age when they become useful for agricultural or other work, no great change can be expected. The prospect in towns and cities is more hopeful.

Though the number of aided schools increased by over 100 and the number of scholars by over 2,000, reports on them continue to be unfavourable. The best that can be said on their behalf is that they serve as feelers to test the extent of the demand for schools in villages.

The number of trained teachers has increased, but with 11,168 trained and 12,909 untrained teachers in primary schools for Indian boys much still remains to be done.

The position as regards buildings has naturally made little progress. Some districts have no buildings at all for their primary schools and hold the

schools in rented or borrowed buildings quite ill-suited to the purpose. Generally these buildings are incommodious and insanitary and in no way suited for instructional purposes. The rise in prices has put the standard plan for primary school buildings almost out of reach, and it is proposed in some districts to adopt a plan of a less ambitious kind.

Progress in the education of the depressed classes is still slow. An experiment is being tried in two districts of appointing a supervisor to stimulate the demand for education among these classes and to make recommendations to the boards for special schools. There are many obvious difficulties in encouraging the depressed classes to take an interest in education, but perhaps the greatest obstacle is the lack of teachers of their own castes.

The total expenditure on schools for Indian boys rose from Rs. 29,25,776 to Rs. 31,33,277 or 7 per cent. This is due to the fact that many schools have been kept open with no more or even fewer scholars at greater expense due to the high rates of grain compensation allowance and the rise in the pay of teachers. New schools have also been opened whose enrolment would have been much higher in more favourable circumstances. There was some increase in the expenditure on aided schools.

The most important features of the year were the revision of the educational programme of the boards adopted as a result of the proposals made by the Piggott Committee in 1913 and the passing of a Bill permitting municipalities to introduce free and compulsory elementary education. The 5 year settlement made with the district boards in 1914 expired at the end of the year and a new 3 year programme has been adopted. This provides for meeting in full the demand for primary education wherever it arises. All restrictions on the discretion of the boards in regard to exemption from fees have been removed. The programme also provides for improved rates of pay for teachers and for a large increase in the number of training classes.

Training and supply of teachers.

270. Fifty out of 57 candidates passed the examination this year at the Allahabad Training College. The number of Muhammadan students undergoing training at the Allahabad College increased from 7 to 14. The number in the Lucknow Training College remained the same as last year, namely, 60. Thirty-eight students sat for the Departmental Teachers' Certificate examination of whom 36 passed as well as two out of three private candidates. Of 14 candidates from Naini Tal and Mussoorie, 11 obtained the certificate for training in European schools, all those from the All Saints Diocesan College, Naini Tal, being successful. The number of normal schools remained the same, namely, 7, but enrolment increased by 51 to 595. Projects for new normal schools are under consideration. The number of training classes rose from 260 to 265, but the number of students decreased by 20 to 1,783. The stipends of pupil teachers have been raised. Proposals have been formulated for largely increasing the number of training classes in order to provide teachers for the large number of new primary schools now contemplated. The number of training institutions for women again rose from 24 to 26, but the number of students fell by 6 to 170. A new normal school for women has been opened at Bareilly.

Technical education.

271. There was some decrease in the number of students at the Gorakhpur Technical School. Eighty-one were in training during 1918 of whom 19 passed out, while a further 47 were admitted in August of that year. Thirty-five students are resident in the hostel, which is capable of providing altogether for 48. All the students who have hitherto passed out of this school and completed their practical apprenticeship with the exception of two are in employment and doing well. Twenty-one Europeans and 47 Indians attended the night classes, as compared with 19 Europeans and 60 Indians last year. The Railway authorities have now decided to have their employés, both Europeans and Indians, admitted to the school, and this will probably lead to an increase in the numbers. Steps are being taken for a larger electrical installation.

One hundred and thirty students were on the roll of the Government Technical School, Lucknow, as against 147 last year. Students who completed their apprenticeship during the year have obtained good positions. There were 18 boarders in the hostel and 65 students attended the night classes.

One hundred and seven students attended the School of Arts and Crafts, Lucknow. The applicants for admission are very carefully selected, and of 46 students who took the entrance examination 34 were rejected. Students who pass out of the school appear to have no difficulty in finding employment or establishing businesses for themselves.

Other schools opened since the close of the year are a Carpentry School at Allahabad to take the place of the former Carpentry School at Bareilly, which has been handed over to the Forest department and a technical school at Jhansi, where students will receive their workshop training in the shops of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway. The number of students at the Government Central Weaving Institute, Benares, increased from 87 to 90, and the increase would have been greater still but for the difficulty experienced by students in finding suitable lodging near the hostel. This will soon be removed by the construction of a hostel. A certain amount of work was done by the school for the Indian Munitions Board.

Of Weaving Schools, Etawah, Bara Banki and the Peripatetic Weaving School at Mau are among the most successful. Progress generally varies; some make little headway for various reasons where they are first placed. The Hosiery School at Almora was handicapped by the difficulty of obtaining machines, needles and yarn.

The enrolment of the Leather Working School at Cawnpore increased from 38 to 45. Students who pass out from this school generally set up in business on their own account. The School of Dyeing and Printing, Cawnpore, is becoming more popular and attracting students from all parts of India. The volume of work has increased enormously and the appointment of a whole-time Principal has now been sanctioned. The school is probably the most important institution of its kind in India.

Female education.

272. The total number of institutions for Indian girls fell from 1,630 to 1,578, but the number of scholars rose from 52,079 to 53,641. The decrease in the number of institutions is entirely in private institutions and the increase in the total number of scholars is satisfactory in view of a fall in the number reading in private institutions. Enrolment in Anglo-Vernacular schools rose by 224 to 4,216 and in vernacular schools it fell from 5,119 to 5,071. The new curriculum for Anglo-Vernacular schools was started during the year. It has not been adopted by the high schools as it does not qualify for entrance to the University. It is welcomed, however, in some schools as calculated to give a more practical education. A great difficulty at present is the provision of suitably qualified teachers for the middle sections of vernacular schools.

The number of primary schools rose from 1,114 to 1,137 and scholars from 37,798 to 39,315. The absence of competent teachers continues to hamper development and the circumstances of the year were unfavourable to progress.

Education of special classes.

273. The number of institutions for Anglo-Indians increased by two, due to the opening of a primary school at Benares by the Bengal and North-Western Railway and the opening of the St Thomas' Day School at Dehra Dun. The enrolment in secondary schools increased by 122, while in primary schools it decreased by 31. The influx to the hill schools noted in last year's report continued in the year under review. Expenditure shows an increase of Rs. 4,47,679 which is partly due to the fact that the Convent Schools at Cawnpore and Jhansi are included as boarding schools for the first time and their expenditure has now been included in the return. The only examination held during the year was the Training Class examination for women teachers. The number of teachers continues to rise, the increase this year being 14. Of the new teachers, two are engaged in the Railway night schools at Jhansi and Lucknow which are included for the first time in the returns. The number on the rolls of the Colvin Taluqdars'

School at the beginning of the year was 59. Seven of these left and 11 new boys were admitted during the year. All the four candidates who went up for the School Leaving Certificate examination passed. This was the first year the school sent up boys for the examination.

The number of Hindu scholars increased from 733,548 to 736,997 and that of Muhammadans from 167,552 to 170,929. The increase in the number of Muhammadan scholars is thus only 72 less than the increase in the number of Hindu scholars. The number of each class reading in colleges and in private institutions has fallen and in general schools has risen, but while the number of Hindus reading in special institutions has fallen, that of Muhammadans in special institutions has increased from 2,866 to 3,217. There was a decline in the number of Muhammadan boys in mixed primary and preparatory board schools excluding aided schools, but a fairly large increase in Islamia schools and maktabs, aided and unaided. The figures seem to indicate a tendency for Muhammadan boys to leave the ordinary schools for special Islamia schools. It is questionable whether this is in the best interests of Muhammadan education, more particularly in view of the difficulty experienced in securing an adequate supply of competent Muhammadan teachers.

56—Literature and the Press.

(See the tables under the head "Printing Presses and Publications," Part VII—Statistics of British India.)

Literary publications.

274. The year's record of publications fell short of that of the preceding year by 256, the total number registered being only 2,029, or the same as in 1915. Both Urdu and Hindi books share in the decrease, though their proportion to each other remains much the same as last year. Poetry, religion, language and history show a decrease, but as regards poetry the decline is merely in the number of translations. There is again a rise in the number of political works. The tendency to introduce the political "motif" into plays and novels is as pronounced as ever and there is a growing passion for patriotic "rhymes."

Though the number of publications dealing with social topics has diminished, the variety of subjects dealt with is as great as ever. Caste, the purdah and the nautch have all attracted the attention of new aspirants to literary fame. Plenty of enthusiasm but little freshness of treatment or originality of ideas is displayed. The ambition to rise in the social hierarchy is still a marked feature of the times, as is evidenced by the appearance of publications claiming that the Telis are Vaishyas and the Lohars and Barhais Brahmans.

Of the 92 political publications of the year 17 bear directly on the Reforms scheme. Effusive gratitude to its framers is not unmixed with whole-hearted condemnation of its provisions, and in comparing the scheme with others more acceptable little appreciation is shown of facts or regard for logic. Reprints of speeches, political songs, a couple of books on Ireland and three dealing with the various aspects of Indian administration complete the list. Two of the latter emphasize the inevitability and duty of suffering in the cause of nation building. They are typical of the new school of "nationalist" authors for their violence of tone and unpractical idealism.

There was a marked decline in religious publications and nothing new in their character. Samajist militancy shows no signs of abating and as controversialists the followers of Swami Dayanand easily come first. Orthodox Hinduism and Islam prefer more gentle methods and discuss their differences in a tone of dignified courtesy. The Ramayana and the Bhagwat Gita continue to claim the attention of editors and publishers. No less than 40 books of the 304 relating to Hinduism deal with the work of Tulsi Das. A new band of Jaina writers has appeared who have made a rationalistic criticism of Jaina scriptures their principal aim. Their protestantism is of a moderate type and has avoided the fulminatory dialectics of the Arya Samaj. The movement, however, is significant of the gradual emancipation of men's minds from the bondage of traditional authority which condemns all criticism as heretical.

The literary output of the year shows little genuine inspiration. Men write with a "purpose" and the result is cheap dogmatism and poor literature. The Drama is topical and with one exception of poor quality. The characters are mostly abstract virtues or vices personified to help forward the action which is designed to culminate in the triumph of some particular quality. The refreshing exception is Mr. G. B. Srivastava's "Ulatpher," a farce of real merit in which rustic oddities are treated with rare skill and humour. Fiction shows an increase of six per cent. An anonymous lady of Kakori is responsible for the most remarkable Urdu book of the year "Shaukat Ara Begam." In Hindi Deoki Nandan Khattri seems to have found a worthy successor in Upadhya Sri Lal. His "Sasi Prabha" is the first instalment of a story which he proposes to complete in 32 volumes.

History and Biography both share in the general decrease of the year. With one or two exceptions the productions are of the usual quality. Hakim Muhammad Najmul Ghani Khan's history of the Rohillas is a work of patient research and accurate scholarship. Biography bears the impress of political hero-worship which has been characteristic of works of this class for some years past.

The year's contribution to scholarship is not very notable. Two Sanskrit publications, however, may be mentioned which do credit to their authors. They are the "Sanskara-dipaka" of Pandit Nitya Nand and the "Nyaya Vartika" of Pandit Vindhyeshwri Prasad. The former is a treatise on the sacramental rites of the Hindus, the latter a valuable contribution to the bibliography of the Nyaya system of philosophy. Educational publications show the usual predominance of keys and cram books. The medical book of the year is a compilation by Major Basu dealing with the medicinal plants of India. The record of Law is neither voluminous nor distinguished, and philosophy where it does not consist of reprints of old works has nothing better to show than the attempts of charlatans to popularise the Yogic system.

Indian press.

275. The total number of newspapers and periodicals printed during the year was 359 compared with 352 in the previous year. Of these 52 were in English, 134 in Urdu and 140 in Hindi. There was thus again a decline in the number of English and an increase in the number of Urdu and Hindi papers. Only in two cases did the circulation exceed 6,000. Lucknow contributed 62, Allahabad 58, Agra 34, Benares 28, Cawnpore 24, Meerut 22, Aligarh 16, Bijnor 15 and Moradabad 13. Five important new papers appeared during the year of which four were in Hindi and one in Urdu. Two Urdu and two Hindi ceased publication.

Tone and policy.

276. Two printing presses did not open and three proposals to start newspapers failed owing to demand of security under the Press Act. In only ten cases was security taken and there was only one case of forfeiture of security. Formal warnings were conveyed to seven persons connected with newspapers and presses by District Magistrates and thirteen were warned by order of the Local Government.

The split between the advanced and moderate sections of the press which began in the previous year became still more marked in 1918. The reasonable attitude adopted after the declaration of August 20th, 1917, by the moderate Hindu papers was generally maintained, while any change in the attitude of the extremist press took the form of increased outspokenness in the assertion of the growing demand of the ultra-extremists left in control of Congress. The conduct of the Muslim press was on the whole loyal and satisfactory, special pleading for Turkey being the leading feature. Some bitterness and impatience were shown in all classes of papers as the opinion gained ground that the principle of "self determination" was not to be applied to subject countries in Asia and Africa and it was hinted not obscurely that it was difficult to reconcile the professions of the Allied countries with their practice.

The attitude towards the war was generally satisfactory and both parties recognized that the victory of the Allied cause was essential to the attainment of their desires. Considerable enthusiasm was aroused by the Allied declaration regarding the protection of small nationalities and fear of Turco-German

invasion of India after the Russian collapse resulted in appeals to the public to help in the cause of right and justice. This was accompanied by a good deal of criticism of the measures taken by Government to assist in the prosecution of the war, and there was a tendency, especially in the more extreme papers, to lay down conditions. The opinion was generally expressed that the Indian delegate to the Imperial War Conference should be an elected representative of the people instead of an official nominee. Allegations also were not wanting regarding undesirable means adopted to secure recruits for the Army and subscriptions for the War Loan. The concessions in the matter of Army commissions were regarded as very inadequate and the demand for the repeal of the Arms Act was insistently repeated along with the complaint of "military emasculation." There was general opposition to the suggested introduction of conscription and the decision of Government in this connection was received with relief. While the proposals made at the Delhi War Conference to mobilise the military resources of the country were welcomed, Government was advised to abandon repression and to liberalise its policy if it desired to arouse enthusiasm. There was little response to the official appeal to suspend agitation, and regret was expressed that Home Rule resolutions were not allowed at the different War Conferences.

The extremist tendency of the proceedings of the 1917 Congress at Calcutta alarmed the moderates who abstained from the special session of the United Provinces Political Conference and the Bombay Special Congress. Their abstention and criticism of extremist policy and proceedings were much resented by the latter party who accused them of being won over by Government. The moderate papers accepted the Reform scheme with reservations as an honest and sympathetic attempt to solve the problem of India's future; while the nationalist press rejected it *in toto* and continued to insist on the Congress League scheme as the irreducible minimum of their demands.

The attitude adopted by the press generally towards the Rowlatt Committee's report was one of incredulity and disagreement and the Muslim papers in particular urged that the views of the committee on the subject of the Muhammadan conspiracy were unsound if not fantastic. The recommendations of the Committee were universally condemned on the ground that they would increase the already excessive power of the police.

The various collisions between Europeans and Indians provoked the usual outcry and considerable resentment continued to be shown at the treatment of Indians in the colonies. The press maintained its uncompromising attitude towards the system of indentured labour.

A considerable amount of attention was devoted to education. The demand for free and compulsory education was continued and any opposition met with severe criticism. Much emphasis was laid on the necessity of adopting a more vigorous policy as regards industrial and technical education. There was considerable dissatisfaction with the industrial policy of Government and protection was demanded. Japan's invasion of the Indian market was regarded with ill-concealed jealousy. The agricultural and economic depression due to the failure of the monsoon and the havoc wrought by the influenza epidemic were both utilized in the attack on Government. With the formation of the United Provinces Kisan Sabha or Cultivators' Association certain papers began to advocate the rights of cultivators against landholders. The wail regarding the poverty of the peasantry became louder, rents were declared to be oppressive, and Government was constantly urged to adopt measures of relief. The rise in prices was attributed to large exports of grain from India to Europe and Mesopotamia and Government was blamed on this account. It was argued that the stamina and general condition of the peasantry had improved but little under British rule as was shown by the devastating effect of the influenza and other epidemics which had now, it seemed, made India their permanent home. Government was urged to spend more on sanitation and the demand for the encouragement of the indigenous system of medicine became more insistent. Efforts were continued to show that there was little religious feeling between the different

communities. They were not, however, so successful as in the previous year. The *Bakr Id* riot at Katarpur in the Saharanpur district aroused very bitter antagonism between Muhammadans and Hindus, and on this occasion the Hindu papers were not as apologetic as on the occasion of the Bihar riots in 1917. The Muhammadan riots in Calcutta also aroused considerable excitement.

57—Literary Societies.

(See page 92 of the report for the year 1911-12.)

58—Arts and Sciences.

(For details see the annual report of the Lucknow Provincial Museum for the year ending 31st March, 1919).

277. The progress of the institution which was its characteristic feature during the last five years was fairly maintained and some useful work was done during 1918-19. The Catalogue of Mughal coins was brought up to date by the addition of the coins acquired during the last two years. Considerable progress was also made in listing Gupta and Pathan coins. So far, however, as the number of acquisitions is concerned, no notable advance could be made as the unsettled conditions of the year tended to keep back coins, metal images and other articles from the market and no extensive tour could be made by the officiating Curator for the acquisition of archaeological objects, as he was also in charge of his own duty as supervisor. Altogether, however, acquisitions numbered 459 of which 387 were presents. Of this total 22 only are assigned to archaeology, 244 to Numismatics, 130 to Natural History and 61 to Ethnography. The United Provinces War Exhibition was held in the Museum from the 27th January to the 1st February and attracted over 18,000 visitors. The total number of visitors to the Museum was 149,299, an increase of 15,384 on the previous year and the highest number on record since the reorganization of the Museum in 1911. Of the total 2,534 were pardanashin ladies as compared with 1,539 last year. Expenditure fell from Rs.14,877 to Rs.13,080 and receipts from Rs. 258 to Rs. 253.

CHAPTER VIII.—ARCHAEOLOGY.

59—Archaeology.

(For details see the annual report of the Superintendent, Muhammadan and British Monuments, Northern Circle, and of the Superintendent, Hindu and Buddhist Monuments, Northern Circle, for the year ending 31st March, 1919.)

278. The amount spent on the conservation of Muhammadan and British monuments in the United Provinces was Rs. 38,660, Rs. 7,760 being spent on special and Rs. 30,900 on annual repairs. Various monuments were brought during the year under the operation of the Preservation of Ancient Monuments Act, chiefly in the districts of Etawah, Cawnpore and Jaunpur. Conservation.

Expenditure on Hindu and Buddhist monuments in the United Provinces amounted to Rs. 4,971, of which Rs. 4,406 were devoted to special works and the remainder to annual repairs. The monuments that received special repairs were the Jaina and Brahmanical temples at Deogarh in the Jhansi district, the antiquities of Dwarahat in the Almora district and the Buddhist ruins of Sarnath in the Benares district.

279. Excavations continued to be carried out at Sarnath. Various interesting objects were brought to light including two dozen stupas, most of which contain relics, a small temple and a number of interesting sculptures, including a few valuable Saiva images. The discovery of these Saiva images coupled with the others revealed by previous explorations shows how completely the site must have been Brahmanised in the latter periods. Exploration.

CHAPTER IX.—MISCELLANEOUS.

60—Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction.

(See page 94 of the report for 1911-12.)

61—Ecclesiastical.

280. The year was uneventful.

62—Stationery.

Stationery.

281. The total value of stationery supplied during the year was Rs. 6,75,869 against Rs. 4,98,659 in the previous year and Rs. 4,80,319 in 1916-17. The value of stationery issued to the press was Rs. 5,37,861 as against Rs. 3,71,454 in 1917-18, the higher expenditure on this account being mainly due to the supply of paper and materials for the United Provinces War Journal and also of parchments for sanads and University diplomas. The value of stationery issued to other offices only increased from Rs. 1,27,205 to Rs. 1,38,008. An increase in the strength of establishments is suggested as the cause for this increase.

63—General Miscellaneous.

Government Press.

282. The receipts of the Government Press rose from Rs. 1,58,013 to Rs. 1,88,199; while expenditure increased from Rs. 2,98,397 to Rs. 4,49,225. The most noticeable increase was under the head of "Supplies and services" and the major portion was incurred on account of the War Journal. The printing bill for the year was Rs. 8,53,908, an increase of Rs. 2,92,989 on the preceding year. This increase is offset by credit adjustments amounting to Rs. 1,83,686 on account of the War Journal while it was an Imperial charge, and further increases in the cost of paper and raw material absorb the remainder. Most departments show increases, but they are all comparatively small and none can be deemed excessive in view of the increase in prices. An increase of more than two lakhs is to be found under the head of "Chargeable" attributable to the War Journal. There was rather a large increase in the amount paid to private presses from Rs. 8,366 to Rs. 23,194. The number of publications received under the Copyright Act for registration fell from 2,338 to 1,829, of which 1,325 were original works and the remaining 504 reprints. Benares with 471 publications maintains its position as the leading centre followed by Allahabad with 420, Lucknow 388, Cawnpore 110, Aligarh 94, Moradabad 87 and Meerut 76. Cawnpore is the only centre which shows an increase. Considerable difficulty was experienced during the year in retaining employees on the wages paid, but the publication of the War Journal kept the machines fully employed and helped materially to add to the men's earnings.

REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION

OF THE

UNITED PROVINCES
OF AGRA AND OUDH

1919-1920.

LIBRARY
OF THE
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BRANCH
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ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY

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REPORT ON THE ADMINISTRATION

OF THE

UNITED PROVINCES OF AGRA AND OUDH

1919-20.

PART I.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

INTRODUCTORY NOTE.

The year to which the following general summary relates is in the main the financial year from the beginning of April, 1919, to the end of March, 1920. The summary is necessarily based, however, on the reports received from each department of the adminstration; and as the period reviewed in these reports varies, a warning is necessary that explanations offered in respect of one subject may not always be in accord with those suggested in respect of another. The report of the Board of Revenue covers the year ending on the 30th September, 1919, while those of the Agricultural and Forest departments relate to the year ending on the 30th June, 1920; the Police year closed on the 31st December, 1919, and the report of the Sanitary Commissioner deals with the same period; the Excise and Income-tax year is the same as the Financial year. A supplementary chapter for the period from April, 1920 to December, 1920, based chiefly on material furnished by heads of departments is appended to this summary, but in the absence of detailed reports for this period little more can be attempted than a statement of general conditions and tendencies.

GENERAL CONDITIONS.

The year 1919-20 was a period of gradual but far from complete recovery from the adverse conditions of previous years. Hostilities between the European Powers had ceased, but the economic effects of the war still persisted, and men's minds continued to be exercised by the terms of peace. The force of the influenza epidemic had spent itself almost everywhere by the summer of 1919 and the province has since enjoyed comparative freedom from other epidemics. With the arrival of the monsoon in July, 1919, the period of scarcity came to end and anxiety on that score perceptibly diminished. Two very fair harvests followed and reduced, though only slightly, the unprecedentedly high prices that had prevailed since the failure of the 1918 monsoon. With high prices prevailing throughout for all kinds of agricultural produce the period has been on the whole one of prosperity for the producing and trading classes and one of difficulty for the mere consumer with inelastic sources of income. The ordinary labourer has been comparatively prosperous with high wages and a continuous demand for his services.

Weather.

2. The year was one of heavy rainfall, but its distribution was not very favourable, and from an agricultural point of view the season can only be described as fairly good. The rainfall in June was below normal and in July, while nearly all districts received sufficient rain, agricultural operations in Bundelkhand were retarded by an excessive amount. August was

a month of heavy rainfall but its distribution was not altogether favourable for the crop system of the provinces. The cotton-growing districts of the Doab and Rohilkhand and the whole of Bundelkhand found it excessive, while for the rice-growing tracts in the submontane belt it was comparatively light. A break followed in the middle of September, which continued, except for some showers in the eastern districts, until the first week in October, when good rain fell in the eastern districts and Bundelkhand, but did not extend beyond Cawnpore in the western districts. This rainfall, however, where it did occur was of great value in preparing the land for the *rabi* and it permitted sowings on an extensive scale. Only light showers were received in November, and the first part of December, but the rainfall in the last week of that month was heavier and fairly general and greatly benefited the *rabi*. January was practically rainless, except for some rain in the western districts and the Himalayan tract. The crops were generally benefited by the general, though scanty, rain in the first half of February; while the hailstones which fell in March facilitated the preparation of the land for sugarcane though they also caused some damage to other crops.

Crops.

3. The total cultivated *kharif* area showed an improvement of 7 per cent. over the figures of last year, or exactly the amount by which it had declined in the year 1918-19; while the *rabi* area increased by as much as 32 per cent. The Bundelkhand districts could not sow the whole of their newly-broken land in the *kharif* on account of continnous rainfall in the early months of the monsoon, but the existence of ample moisture enabled them to carry out *rabi*-sowings on a very extensive scale. The most noticeable feature in the western districts was a continued increase in the areas under wheat and gram, which is probably chiefly due to the rise in prices of these commodities. As regards the *kharif* the area under late rice, *bajra*, sugarcane, and indigo declined in comparison with the area sown in the previous year, but *juar*, maize, cotton, and small millets showed an improvement. Of the *rabi* crops all but poppy returned better figures than last year. While the *kharif* outturn was a great improvement on that of 1918-19, it was in nearly all cases below normal. *Bajra* was the best crop, yielding 95 against a normal yield of 100. Early rice, *juar*, and sugarcane gave returns of 90; while late rice, *mandua*, maize, and cotton yielded 85. Although the *rabi* crop was a very fair harvest, it was not up to the average of the year 1916-17. The barley crop was 95 per cent. of the normal and the wheat, gram, linseed, and rapeseed crops 90 per cent. The opium crop was the same as in the previous year—75 per cent.

Prices.

4. Prices were rising steadily at the close of the previous year and, owing to apprehensions of a delayed monsoon, they rose still higher until good and general rain was received in July, when they became slightly easier. They remained stationary in August, but generally fell in September with the arrival of new grain in the market. There followed a slight tendency to rise which ended in January, and with the advent of fresh supplies in March there was a general fall. The upward tendency again became noticeable in May. The failure of satisfactory *kharif* and *rabi* harvests to have any great permanent effect on prices is attributed in part to continued difficulties in obtaining means of quick transport. That they did, however, result in some improvement may be seen from an examination of the course of prices in the Cawnpore market. In June, 1919, wheat stood at 5·25 seers

to the rupee; by the following April the price had fallen to 7·25 seers. Gram started at 5·50 seers and fell to 8·75 seers in May. *Juar*, which was only 4·62 seers in June, 1919, dropped to 11·25 seers in April and barley commenced the year at 7·62 seers and fell to 11 seers in April. In all these cases, however, an appreciable rise commenced again in June, 1920. The price of rice was, as last year, very much influenced by the quantity imported. At the beginning of the year five seers were obtainable for one rupee and at the end of the year only four seers. There was a considerable and general fall in the price of fodder.

AGRICULTURE.

Future development

5. For the Agricultural department the year was again necessarily one of preparation. Little improvement showed itself in the opportunities for recruitment to the Indian Agricultural Service and the strength of the Provincial cadre remains much the same. Schemes have, however, been prepared and approved by Government for a practically entire re-organization of the department in all its branches, namely (1) demonstrational and experimental, (2) educational and research, (3) engineering, and (4) cattle-breeding.

Demonstration and experiment.

6. Under the first head there is contemplated a division of the provinces into ten agricultural circles based on territorial and soil peculiarities, each circle constituting an agricultural tract. An experimental farm will be located at the headquarters of each circle and the ultimate aim is to have a district farm in each district in the circle. The peculiarities of each tract will thus receive special study and experimental results will be further tested for every district.

Education and research.

7. To meet the growing demands of the agricultural community and to provide the necessary education for the largely increased staff that will be required, a large expansion of the Agricultural College at Cawnpore is a matter of urgent necessity. This involves extension of the college buildings, acquisition of a larger farm, and expansion of the professorial, tutorial, and research staff.

Engineering.

8. The most important field of work in the direction of agricultural engineering lies in the erection of pumping installations. The value of tube-wells is becoming appreciated and the demand is in large excess of the supply. To ensure a regular supply of some two hundred installations a year, a scheme has been approved for the division of the provinces into circles under the charge of two Agricultural Engineers and a staff of six Assistant Engineers. It is also proposed to amalgamate with this section the present well-boring section.

Cattle-breeding.

9. Cattle-breeding has recently been transferred from the charge of the Civil Veterinary department and a Deputy Director of Agriculture has been specially recruited to control it. The scheme which has been approved involves the establishment of two large cattle ranches, one in the western and the other in the central portion of the provinces. A third may possibly be required eventually in the eastern tract.

Agricultural College, Cawnpore.

10. The college continues to draw as in the past few years, a satisfactory class of student, and the number of applications is greatly in excess of the possible admission. The college is still short-handed; there has been no agriculturist in charge of the agricultural side since 1914. A scheme for the expansion of the farm has had to be postponed owing to financial

stringency; while the extension of the college buildings which is to be financed by a grant from the Government of India has not yet been commenced, though the plans are in course of preparation. In view of the recommendations made by the Calcutta University Commission the whole question of the status of the Agricultural school at Bulandshahr is being reconsidered.

Progress in research and demonstration.

11. No great progress has been made in the research work on cotton and sugarcane, though some improvements have been effected in the breeds of American cotton and good results from medium staple cotton have also been obtained. As regards sugarcane, the report of the Indian Sugar Committee is being awaited and the direction of further research will be considered on its receipt. There is little fresh to note as regards the propagation of Pusa wheat. Much still remains to be done to make the cultivator realize that it is not sufficient to substitute one variety for another and that improved tillage and manuring must go hand in hand with the sowing of the superior kind of wheat. Experiments for the improvement and extension of fibre crops have been carried out with some success

PUBLIC WORKS.

Buildings and roads.

12. Any great expansion of the activities of the Buildings and Roads branch of the Public Works department continued to be vetoed both by financial considerations and also by the difficulty of obtaining materials and the shortage of railway transport. As regards buildings such expansion as did take place was directed chiefly towards meeting the needs of the Educational department. In the matter of roads one of the most important works which was completed was the inter-provincial trunk link with the Punjab through Saharanpur. Other works which deserve mention were the completion of the Rajpur-Mussoorie cart-road to Khulukhet and the cart-road between Bhatronjkhan and Ganai in the Almora district, which is designed to facilitate the return of pilgrims from Badrinath. This road is still in course of construction. The Board of Communications have worked out an extensive programme to be spread over several years which will effect a very considerable improvement both in provincial and local communications. Its cost, however, amounts to several crores and it will not be possible to finance it out of ordinary revenues.

IRRIGATION.

Financial.

13. With a more favourable rainfall the total area irrigated by canals was naturally less than in 1918-19, but the total value of the crops irrigated was nearly three crores of rupees more than in that year and the net profits on the year's working, after deducting all working expenses, as well as interest charges and refunds of revenue rose from Rs. 55·75 to Rs. 64·64 lakhs.

The Sarda-Kichha Canal.

14. The sanction of the Secretary of State was received during the year to the estimate amounting to Rs. 192 lakhs for the construction of the Sarda-Kichha Feeder canal, and the preliminary arrangements which had already been put in hand were at once expanded. Actual constructive work on the canal is being started this cold weather and it is hoped that the feeder will be completed in about six years. The project is part of a great scheme for irrigating about 1,725,000 acres in Rohilkhand and Oudh, and includes a weir across the Sarda river near Tanakpur, where the river

debouches from the Lower Himalayas into the plains, and the construction of a main canal taking off from the right bank of the river. After proceeding seven miles the canal will bifurcate into two branches. The westerly branch, or Sarda-Kichha Feeder canal, will run across the Terai, and throwing off distributaries to the south and augmenting the supply in some of the existing Rohilkhand canals, will irrigate, it is estimated, about 345,000 acres in Rohilkhand and the Oudh district of Hardoi. The southerly branch called the Sarda canal, the estimate for which has been submitted to the Government of India during the year, is expected to irrigate some 1,380,000 acres chiefly in Oudh. Both projects are remunerative and are expected to return 6 per cent on the total capital expenditure.

Protection works in Bundelkhand.

15. An active policy in connection with protection works in Bundelkhand was pursued during the year, five survey parties being employed in working out plans and estimates for *bandhis* which can at any moment be constructed during a famine. The passage into law during the year of the United Provinces Private Irrigation Works Bill will enable a large number of these works to be carried out in future at the instance of zamindars.

Hydro-electric power.

16. Some valuable results were obtained in connection with the selection of sites where hydro-electric power can be developed. By the end of March, 1920, much ground had been covered in the Mirzapur district and in the Benares State, resulting in the discovery of four sites with considerable water-power possibilities. Survey parties were also engaged in prospecting for water-power in the Rewah State and in the Naini Tal and Almora districts.

SECURITY.

Criminal statistics.

17. During the first half of 1919, when agricultural and economic conditions were still unfavourable, the returns of serious crime continued to be high. As soon, however, as the monsoon was fully established a marked decline, especially in dacoity cases, at once set in. No less than 1,074 dacoities occurred during the first seven months of the year, whereas the total for the last five months was only 398. But conditions were unfavourable for a longer period than in 1918 and the number of cognizable offences rose in consequence from 162,283 to 175,552, the increase occurring chiefly in offences against property. Perhaps the most satisfactory feature of the year was the decline in the total number of dacoity and robbery cases, from 1,954 to 1,502 in the former case and from 999 to 917 in the latter, high as the more recent figures still are. Murder cases slightly increased and there were large increases in the number of burglaries and thefts, especially cattle thefts.

Investigations and results.

18. Police investigations were considerably more successful than in the previous year. Including cases pending from that year, 545 convictions were obtained in dacoity cases, as compared with 244 in 1918; while convictions for robbery rose from 243 to 281. Out of 39,745 theft cases for disposal and 10,562 tried, 9,631 ended in conviction, the corresponding figures for 1918 being 35,791, 7,173, and 5,575, while as regards burglary, with which the police are far less successful in dealing than with any other class of offence, the percentage of cases convicted to cases reported was nine as compared with seven in the previous year.

Dacoity.

19. The most interesting chapter in the police report for 1919 is that dealing with dacoity and many stories are told both of fine work on the

part of the police and of successful resistance by villagers. Measures taken in co-operation with Native State authorities against the large gangs which infest the border-land were highly successful and mention may be made in particular of the action taken by the Gwalior Durbar under the personal supervision of His Highness the Maharaja Scindia himself, which resulted in the arrest and conviction of no less than 105 dacoits. The experience of the year shows once more what has been repeatedly tested, that if the pest of dacoity is to be kept within limits incessant activity must be shown in preventive measures, and encouragement given to self-defence on the part of the villagers; a high degree of co-operation must prevail between districts and between Native State and British territory, and courts must realize that a professional dacoit seldom if ever reforms and that jail is the only place where he can be prevented from doing serious harm.

Police administration.

20. The strength of the force was much the same as in the previous year. The number of resignations declined but the figure is still very high. The report of the committee appointed to enquire into the conditions of the subordinate ranks is now under the consideration of Government and action has already been taken to give advance and retrospective effect to the proposals for increased pay.

PROVINCIAL FINANCE.

The budget.

21. Despite the unfavourable agricultural outlook, due to the failure of the 1918 monsoon and the difficulty of forecasting the effect of the cessation of war conditions upon certain heads of revenue and expenditure, the budget for the year 1919-20 allowed for a full revenue in consideration of the general prosperity which prevailed. The restrictions against use of the balance which had existed during the War were partially removed, especially in favour of expenditure on objects which, though not immediately remunerative, would secure an improved and not-long deferred return. The budget accordingly provided for an opening balance of 254 lakhs, an income of 813 lakhs, an expenditure of 861 lakhs, and a closing balance of 206 lakhs. The actual opening balance was 252 lakhs; receipts exceeded anticipations by 13 lakhs, while expenditure fell short of the estimate by 4 lakhs. Thus the actual deficit on the year's operations was 30 lakhs against an anticipated figure of 48 lakhs. The closing balance was 222 lakhs.

General position

22. An examination of the figures of income and expenditure of the last few years shows that there has been a progressive and substantial increase in revenue which is distributed over all important heads. Figures for the year 1913-14, before the results of war conditions had made themselves fully felt, of the year 1916-17 and of subsequent years are given below:—

Year.	Income.	Expenditure.
	Rs. in lakhs.	Rs. in lakhs.
1913-14	680	679
1916-17	702	665
1917-18	730	678
1918-19	760	752
1919-20	826	856

The excess of expenditure over receipts in the year under review was due to special causes and, allowing for these, it would appear that the province has good cause for satisfaction. There is, however, another side to the picture. As has been admitted by the Committee on Financial Relations, considerable arrears of administrative progress are now due. The

closing balance of 222 lakhs will not go far towards meeting the expenditure on these arrears; indeed in the current year it has been greatly reduced owing to the very heavy outlay on the revision of salaries of the several services and establishments. These new recurring charges will have to be met in future out of normal revenue and even under the reformed constitution the provincial resources in their present form will be quite insufficient to provide for the many schemes of improvement which have been postponed owing to the War. If progress is not to be further delayed one of the main duties of the reformed Government will be the provision of new financial fuel for the administrative machine.

FORESTS.

Financial results.

23. The year's achievement in the Forest department, though not quite commensurate with expectations, was on the whole satisfactory. Difficulties of recruitment, shortage of labour, and delay in the supply of machinery continued to stand in the way of rapid development, the new factories at Bareilly being specially handicapped by the last two causes. While there was again a satisfactory rise in the total receipts during the forest year which ended on 30th June 1920, from Rs. 67·53 to 73·56 lakhs, the net surplus decreased from Rs. 19·61 to Rs. 9·55 lakhs. The increase of 6 lakhs in the gross revenue occurred mainly in the Western circle and is due to the better prices obtained at auctions. Increased working expenses contributed to the reduction in the net balance, but the fall is chiefly due to heavy capital expenditure on the new Saw Mill and Turnery, which would more properly from a business point of view be financed from loans. For the financial year 1919-20 the figures are rather better, the revenue being Rs. 74·70 lakhs against an expenditure of Rs. 61·40 lakhs.

Future policy.

24. The policy which was outlined in previous reports is still being pursued. In the new Utilization circle the objects aimed at are educational, experimental, and commercial. Alike in the Wood-Working Institute at Bareilly and in the factories, the intention is to train up Indians in the use of machinery and in the control of up-to-date commercial concerns; and at the same time to test, first in the laboratory and workshops, and subsequently on a larger scale, the commercial possibilities of the different varieties of timber and to encourage by practical demonstration their exploitation by private industrial agency.

Administration.

25. The chief administrative reform of the year was the constitution of the Working Plans and Research circle. Several decades of systematic protection have now rendered intensive working practicable and new working plans are a necessary preliminary to the full exploitation of the forests' increased resources. The constitution of the new circle will place the preparation of working plans on a scientific basis and help to co-ordinate the sylvicultural activities of the province and the Research Institute.

Afforestation.

26. The afforestation of ravine lands has hitherto been on an experimental scale, but it has now reached a stage which would appear to justify a more ambitious programme. The terms on which such lands were leased from private owners have recently been revised in the landlords' favour, and the inducements now offered should secure their co-operation. The forests of the province cover less than 7 per cent. of the total area—a percentage far below that considered adequate in most countries, and there are special

reasons in India why the area should be increased. The primary object of the plantations now in existence is to stop erosion. There is a very large area of denuded and eroded waste land in these provinces and this area is being constantly extended at the expense of cultivation. The plantations, however, serve other useful purposes as well, especially in times of famine, providing the famine-stricken not only with employment but also with fuel and hay and their cattle with grazing. It is intended also to start such plantations near large towns where the demand for grass and firewood is very great and the price very high.

Communications.

27. Improvement of communications both by road and rail is a condition precedent to the solution of the main problem before the department, how to secure an unhindered flow of forest produce to the principal markets of India and open up the forest hinterland. Operations in this direction at present are necessarily on a small scale, but the possibility of expanding the programme as soon as Local Governments receive greater powers in respect of the raising of loans is not being lost sight of and a programme of the most urgent and important roads and railways was prepared during the year and has been approved by the Provincial Board of Communications. The scheme for the construction of a ropeway between Kathgodam and Naini Tal and Kathgodam and Almora has been submitted to the Secretary of State.

Extraction of sleepers from Nepal.

28. Considerable progress was made with the arrangements entered into with the Nepal Durbar for the extraction from Nepal of 2 lakhs of broad-gauge sleepers, though unexpected difficulties which have been encountered have increased the cost per sleeper beyond the original estimate. There was no reason to suppose at the time when that estimate was made that there would be any difficulty as regards either labour or supplies, but it became apparent at the end of 1919 that both trade and labour were leaving Nepal by a different and hitherto unused route, and that no reliance whatever could be placed on local labour or local supplies. In these circumstances there was no alternative but to arrange for their import from British India. Other difficulties also had to be surmounted. It was found that transport of the sleepers across the river in boats had many drawbacks and a wire ropeway was therefore put up by the Forest Engineer, the material being purchased from the Khyber ropeway. The ropeway has proved completely successful, transporting the sleepers at a quicker rate and at considerably less cost than the boats. Altogether over 1 lakh of broad gauge sleepers were transported across the river, and it is expected that the balance will reach rail-head by the end of March, 1921.

EXCISE.

Income.

29. The expansion of revenue that was noticed in last year's report continued during the year 1919-20, and the total income rose by over 16 lakhs. This increase was, indeed, less than had been anticipated, for enhancements of duty reduced consumption very considerably. It is never easy to estimate with any exactitude the effect of such enhancements on consumption especially where many other disturbing factors have to be reckoned with. An increase in income of 10 lakhs in 1918-19 showed that it does not necessarily follow that a year of scarcity will be accompanied by a fall in income. The condition of the trading and industrial classes has

to be examined as well as that of the agricultural population. In 1919-20 the effect of a bad marriage season on the figures for Oudh, where habitual consumers of liquor are comparatively few, is very striking.

Consumption.

30. While all excise commodities contributed to the increase in revenue, consumption declined appreciably under every head except *ganja*. The fall in consumption of country liquor was nearly 24 per cent., of *bhang* 29 per cent., of opium 14 per cent., and of *charas* 10 per cent. The rise in the consumption of *ganja* was nearly 4 per cent. That enhancement of duty should result in a largely-reduced consumption and a large increase in revenue is highly satisfactory. The policy can advantageously be pursued still further, and proposals to this effect are at present under consideration.

Distilleries and raw material.

31. Distilleries were again unfortunate as regards their supplies of raw material. The exceptionally high price of molasses and *mahua* which was marked in the previous year continued. Contract suppliers could not meet their obligations and Government had to assist them both by direct subventions and by increasing the price paid to them for liquor under their contracts.

Cases under the Excise Act and Opium Act.

32. The record of offences during the year is not without interest. There was a large fall in the number of prosecutions under the Excise Act, the decrease being largest under illicit distillation, which is due to the failure of the *mahua* crop. An increase in the number of prosecutions under the cocaine sections of the Act is attributed to increased facilities for the introduction of the drug from Europe since the declaration of peace. Cases of drunkenness decreased; there was a large increase in cantonments and a falling-off in municipalities. Opium cases increased from 347 to 381. An increase in the amount of contraband treasury opium seized within the province indicates that leakages from vendors or the factory have not yet been stopped. Of the opium discovered outside the province in the possession of inhabitants of the province, Afghan opium is specially prominent. This form of the drug is extremely cheap and it appears that smugglers have been driven to substitute it for treasury and Malwa opium owing to the the great rise in price of the latter.

INCOME TAX.

33. The importance of income-tax as a source of revenue has considerably increased in the last few years. The procedure of assessment has been entirely revised, the minimum income assessable to the tax has been raised from Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 2,000 and a special staff has been appointed to cope with the growing complexity of the work and prevent the evasion that, it is to be feared, formerly occurred. The results of these changes are not uninteresting. The obligation imposed on all potential assessees to make returns of income, enforced alike by direct penalty and by forfeiture of any claim to re-adjustment, was at first received by some sections of the business community as an inquisitorial innovation, while re-adjustment itself, that is to say the preliminary assessment in one year followed by an adjustment in the next, which was introduced by the Act of 1918, was interpreted by the ignorant as a disguise for double assessment. Tactful administration, however, is reconciling the people to the former, and the prospect of obtaining refunds is dispelling their unfounded fears as regards the latter. While the raising of the taxable limit has more than halved the number of assessees, it has exercised remarkably little influence on the

returns. In 1917-18, before the introduction of the new system, the income was Rs. 46·52 lakhs; for the following year, in which, while the new method of procedure was followed, the change in the taxable limit had not come into effect, the income rose on final adjustment to Rs. 66·63 lakhs; in 1919-20 with the elimination of all assessees whose income was below Rs. 2,000 the preliminary assessments fell to Rs. 59·25 lakhs. The inference drawn at the time the change was made that while it gave relief to a very large number of people the State could well stand the loss it entailed thus seems likely to be substantiated. It may be added that the remarkable increase in the total income during the last two years is ascribed partly to the great prosperity of the trading classes and partly to the greater efficiency of the administration.

TRADE AND INDUSTRY.

Internal trade.

34. The most noticeable features of the internal trade of the year were a general decline in grain traffic, both of imports and exports, and an improvement in import trade generally with all the chief seaports except Madras. The decline in the grain traffic would appear to be mainly due to a more favourable season, necessitating less movement of grain, and also to the embargo on the export of wheat. Railway plant and machinery account in the main for the increase in imports from the seaports, and reflect no doubt the efforts of the railways and factories to make up for the shortage of such imports during the War. Taking imports as a whole, however, there was a considerable falling-off. In the previous year they had risen by 109 lakhs of maunds in weight and Rs. 1,367 lakhs in value. In the year under review they fell by 68 lakhs of maunds and Rs. 71 lakhs. Exports fell by 163 lakhs of maunds following on a fall of 50 lakhs of maunds in 1918-19, but their value rose by Rs. 113 lakhs, as compared with a rise of Rs. 795 lakhs in that year. The only other feature of interest was a very considerable decline in the river-borne traffic between these provinces and Calcutta, from 181,911 to 47,199 maunds in the case of imports and from 70,861 to 25,007 maunds in the case of exports.

Trade with Tibet and Nepal.

35. Trade with Tibet showed a slight increase in the weight of imported articles, but a decline in their value. Exports rose both in weight and value. Trade is reported, however, to have suffered from the shortage of pack animals, many of which are believed to have been destroyed by the heavy snows of the previous winter. There was a fall in imports of borax and wool and a rise under salt. Of the exports increases occurred under cotton goods, grains, and tea, and a fall under sugar. It is thought that tea from British India is used by poor people in Tibet who cannot afford to pay the high prices of Chinese brick tea. Imports from Nepal again declined in weight and exports again rose. The value, however, both of imports and exports rose, the former by Rs. 24,74,757, and the latter by Rs. 16,07,760.

Industrial Progress.

36. Industrial progress is still slow; and in present circumstances a rapid advance cannot be expected. Post-war conditions as reflected in the difficulty of obtaining machinery and in the restriction of the coal-supply occasioned by the shortage of wagons, continue to act as a check. On the other hand, owing to the unsettled state of Europe, competition is only partially making itself felt at present, and many of the industries which have come to the front in the last few years are doing well, though the cessation

of demands for the army has restricted the market. The high prices of imported goods, however, favour the indigenous article and woollen and cotton mills in particular have had a prosperous year.

The glass industry.

37. The glass industry is flourishing at present, but it will soon have to contend with foreign competition which is already beginning to assert itself, and the introduction of more modern machinery and improved methods of manufacture is the most urgent need of the moment. Government is obtaining the services of an expert to advise both in the matter of machinery and in the processes of manufacture.

The weaving industry.

38. The position of the weaving industry is somewhat similar. During the War, hand-weaving received a strong stimulus from the falling-off in imports, but special efforts will now be required if the industry is to maintain its position. The efforts of the Central Weaving Institute, Benares, and other weaving schools have helped to popularize the fly-shuttle loom among weavers and the organization of dépôts on a co-operative basis for the supply of yarn and machinery should help to stabilize this cottage industry.

INDUSTRIAL EDUCATION.

Technical schools and School of Arts and Crafts.

39. The technical schools at Lucknow and Gorakhpur and the School of Arts and Crafts at Lucknow continue to be popular. Most of the successful students after completing their courses are apprenticed with the railway workshops, while others find remunerative employment outside without difficulty. Indeed it is reported that the demand for craftsmen from the School of Arts and Crafts is so great that many of them leave the institution in response to offers of employment before their course is completed.

New schools.

40. The new schools which have recently been established are doing well. The Technical school at Jhansi has 59 students on the rolls, the number at the Carpentry school, Allahabad, has gone up from 54 to 72 in nine months and arrangements are in train which will make a further considerable expansion possible. The Leather Working school, Cawnpore, has 45 students on its rolls and a branch school has been established at Meerut.

Printing and dyeing.

41. The school of printing and dyeing at Cawnpore continues to attract students from all parts of India. A printing school is also being temporarily established at Farrukhabad, and the organization of peripatetic instruction in dyeing is under consideration.

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES.

42. The Co-operative department continued to follow the policy of vigorous reformation within the movement, and consolidation received more attention than expansion. The year witnessed the growth of 654 new societies, but this expansion is obscured in the returns by the liquidation of a large number of societies whose condition has long been hopeless. Their failure is a legacy of the past, and it is in the interests of all concerned that the heavy burden of such moribund societies should be removed as quickly as possible. In view of the great care which is now taken in the testing of fresh organizations by banks and the Government staff, the registration of 654 new societies means a real advance. Nine new central banks, six guaranteeing unions, and two district banks were registered during the year. A marked improvement in the condition of societies has taken place and the

proportion of arrears decreased from 48·7 to 26·2 per cent. in the case of central banks and from 55·5 to 32·1 per cent. in the case of primary societies. No remarkable development occurred in non-agricultural or non-credit co-operation but indications of steady progress in all forms of co-operative activity are visible. The Co-operative department and the Agricultural department are joining forces to introduce improved seeds and implements and manures. Most of the central banks purchased large quantities of improved seed. A few also purchased modern implements. A large industrial association with headquarters at Allahabad has been formed to push the development of industries which can lend themselves to co-operative methods and co-operative housing schemes are being mooted in large towns. A housing society has already been registered at Cawnpore. There have been large additions in recent years to the staff of the department as well as to the number of voluntary workers, but in both these respects the province is still behind the other large provinces of India.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Public health.

43. The health of the year showed a marked improvement on that of 1918, and there were fewer deaths from all the main diseases, except small-pox. Cholera caused 81,365 deaths as compared with 119,746 in the previous year; the mortality from plague fell from 174,805 to 17,240; 1,575,632 deaths were registered under the head of fever as against 3,217,678 in 1918; deaths from dysentery and diarrhoea totalled 15,331 as against 21,266, and diseases of respiratory organs claimed 25,768 victims as compared with 32,010 in 1918. The mortality from small-pox on the other hand rose from 2,908 to 10,993. It is suggested that the enforced use during the War of bleaching powder in place of permanganate of potassium is responsible for the large number of deaths caused by cholera in the last two years (see supplementary chapter, paragraph 11). The death rate for plague is the lowest on record and the decline is attributed to the famine conditions which continued during the greater part of the year. The rat population varies directly with the available food-supply and it follows that in famine years there is a largely reduced mortality from plague. As evidence in support of this theory may be adduced the fact that in districts showing the highest plague mortality famine conditions did not exist. The total under the head of fever, while a considerable reduction on that of 1918, is still high and for this influenza was largely responsible. It assumed epidemic form however in one district only. Relapsing fever was prevalent in three districts and sporadic cases occurred in several others. Small-pox was epidemic in certain districts and was especially virulent during the first half of the year. It is satisfactory to note that fairs passed off without any serious occurrence of epidemic disease.

Birth and death rates.

44. The United Provinces stand fourth on the list of provinces in high birth rates, eighth in low death rates, and tenth in low infantile mortality. The birth rate fell from 39·89 per thousand to 32·39 and is the lowest, but one, which has been recorded in the last 39 years. A low birth rate was to be expected in a year which followed a period which was abnormally unhealthy, and unsatisfactory economic conditions and the absence from home of many men on military duty doubtless also contributed to the result. A fall in the death rate from 82·37 per thousand to 41·69 is largely attributable to the passing of the influenza scourge.

Infantile mortality.

45. The figures of infantile mortality are lower than those of 1918, the ratio per thousand being 253·3 as compared with 303·5 in 1918. The ratio, however, is still very high and has only been exceeded twice in the last twelve years. The introduction of remedial measures is hampered by the prevailing social and economic conditions. Efforts for the reduction of the mortality are being continued and a scheme for the training of indigenous *dhai's* was started during the year at six centres, Lucknow, Benares, Cawnpore, Allahabad, Bareilly, and Fyzabad. With the exception of Bareilly, however, the reports received on the working of the scheme are not very encouraging. A committee has recently been constituted to discuss the best methods of assisting the Lady Chelmsford League for maternity and child-welfare in India.

MUNICIPALITIES.

Improvement Trusts.

46. The Town Improvement Bill received the assent of the Governor General during the year, and immediately on its enactment the whole Act was extended to the municiplities of Cawnpore and Lucknow and Improvement Trusts were constituted under the Act for these towns. The Trusts have already completed the greater part of the preliminary spade-work. Several important schemes have been published and some have been sanctioned and are being carried out. The Trusts are devoting special attention to housing schemes, both to replace people who may be temporarily ejected by other schemes and also to provide for the normal needs of an expanding population.

Taxation.

47. The task of preparing proposals for the substitution of terminal tax and toll for octroi continued throughout the year and was concluded by seven more boards. Octroi is still being collected in 25 municipalities. For some of these terminal taxation appears to be unsuitable and difficulties are apprehended in its working; in such cases boards are being allowed to retain octroi. In few municipalities where direct taxation is in force does the machinery of assessment work very smoothly and many would welcome a reversion to any form of indirect taxation. While deprecating any general abandonment of direct taxation where it is already in force the Local Government is endeavouring to induce the boards to revise their system of direct taxation in the direction of greater simplicity and, if possible, to combine it with indirect taxation. Several towns which attract a large number of pilgrims have recently made proposals for the introduction of a pilgrim tax to be collected by the railway companies. In some cases they have no other obvious source from which they can expand their revenues; they are faced with schemes of sanitary reform involving a large expenditure, and it is natural that they should wish to make the pilgrim pay for the provision of amenities from which he will chiefly benefit. The Local Government therefore looks with favour on these proposals, but at present little progress is being made towards bringing them into effect owing to the attitude adopted by some of the railways which apprehend that their traffic will be adversely affected.

Water-supply.

48. The water-supply of several of the larger municipalities continues to be precarious and little was done during the year to improve the position. In Allahabad, Lucknow, Benares, Cawnpore and Naini Tal the position is rapidly becoming critical. The demand for water has been rapidly increasing during recent years; the engines and pumps have been taxed to their utmost limit and many of the sets will before long be of no further use. Under

present conditions the plant required for the renewal of the machinery cannot be obtained and imported under eighteen months and this period may be indefinitely prolonged in the event of labour disputes. The boards concerned have been requested to give the matter their immediate and earnest attention. They are at the same time being encouraged to enhance their water rates so that their income from this source may cover their expenditure. In no single municipality is this the case at present.

Financial position of boards.

49. The financial position of the majority of the boards is sufficiently strong to enable them to meet all ordinary demands including the revision of pay of municipal employés, and have a fair balance left. It does not, however, in most cases allow them to contemplate any large schemes of improvement without the imposition of additional taxation. A certain number of boards even now cannot satisfactorily pay their way and among them are included some of the most important municipalities in the province such as Allahabad, Lucknow, Fyzabad, Cawnpore, Bareilly, and Benares. All municipalities look to Government to finance, whether by way of loan or grant or both, those larger schemes of sanitary reform many of which are now long overdue, and Government and the Board of Public Health are at present engaged in a critical examination of the resources, existing and potential, of the more important boards, with a view to the carrying out with Government assistance of a programme of sanitary improvements and electrical installations at the earliest possible date.

General.

50. While some of the boards still display the defects and weaknesses noticed in previous reports, there are signs in others of the growth of a stronger public spirit and a better realization of the evils which arise from dissension. Some of the boards whose financial position is admittedly unsatisfactory are making determined efforts to put their house in order by the imposition of additional taxation. In the resolution issued by the Local Government on the municipal administration of the year mention is made of the tendency shown by some boards to resent the interference of experts and to display their independence by rejecting the advice of Government officials. It is pointed out that at the present time expert advice and co-operation between the boards and officers of Government is more than ever necessary, and an appeal is made to the boards to recognize this fact and respond whole-heartedly to the overtures in this direction which are now being made.

DISTRICT BOARDS.

51. The resolution issued by the Local Government on the working of district boards admits that the boards as a whole show few signs of vitality and that little interest is taken in their administration either by the members themselves or by their electorates. Attendance at meetings is poor, and tahsil and school committees have, with a few exceptions, been a failure. Although many of the boards have at present large balances these will disappear when the pay of all their employés has been revised and in all cases therefore fresh sources of revenue are urgently required. The boards have no power to impose additional taxation and the only elastic item of their receipts is represented by Government grants. Progress is therefore restricted to those departments to which Government makes grants, in particular the department of Education, to which large grants have been

made in pursuance of the programme for the expansion of primary education. Other important schemes or proposals for which financial provision does not already exist are at once vetoed by the impossibility of finding money to finance them. It is believed that this financial impotence goes far to explain the apathy shown by members and that radical changes both in the constitution and the powers of the boards are called for. They are required in the interests both of the boards and of Government. There is no real reason why boards should be so dependent on the favour of Government, nor is there any reason why the burden of financing them should fall to the extent it does on provincial revenues. Action has, however, been deferred on the recommendations of the Committee of the Legislative Council appointed to consider and advise on the future development of local self-government, pending the consideration of the question by the reformed Council.

EDUCATION.

University reform.

52. The most notable achievements of the year in the field of education were in connection with University reform. As soon as the Calcutta University Commission's report was received, two strong committees were appointed: one to consider a scheme for the constitution of a University at Lucknow; the other to consider the question of the future functions of the Allahabad University. Rapid progress has been made with the scheme for the Lucknow University, and the passage of the Lucknow University Act puts Oudh in possession of a University of its own. The question of remodelling the Allahabad University for the dual function of unitary teaching and central affiliating University still remains for decision. The recommendations of the committee have been referred to a sub-committee of the Senate. The Benares Hindu University made considerable progress in the face of many difficulties. The most interesting development of the year was the opening of the University College of Engineering.

Primary education.

53. Substantial progress was also made at the other end of the educational ladder. The year was the first of the new three years' primary education programme drawn up by district boards and the programme was instrumental in increasing the total number of primary schools for Indian boys from 11,504 to 13,597, and the number of boys under instruction in these schools from 685,830 to 759,672. This result, compared with an increase in the previous year of 717 schools and 16,116 students is not unsatisfactory. Of the 2,093 new schools no less than 1,845 are district board institutions and it may be noted that some Commissioners, in reviewing the annual reports of district boards express the opinion that the increase in the number of students would have been larger but for the greater value now put on child labour by the rise in prices and wages. They also think, however, that quite apart from this distracting influence, there is still no great thirst for education among the rural population and it is clear, therefore, that until the value of education is better realized, its general diffusion will not be accomplished without determined and continued efforts. The attempt to popularize primary education among Muhammadans met with the largest measure of success, the number of Islamia schools increasing from 284 to 492, and the number of pupils receiving instruction in them from 9,678 to 16,392. Government is giving the district boards considerable financial assistance in the prosecution of their campaign, and it is hoped that the

appointment of a Chief Inspector of Vernacular Education, charged with the duty of advising them as to its direction, will be specially helpful.

Secondary education.

54. In the sphere of secondary education there was an increase of 48 in the number of schools of all kinds and of 4,895 in the total enrolment of scholars. These figures compare favourably with those of the previous year, but the position of English schools only is not so satisfactory. Certain aided schools of this class were closed in consequence of their inability to compete with high prices and falling exchange. It may be noted here that all private and aided institutions continued to feel the pressure of adverse economic conditions to a greater extent than public institutions. On the whole the number of students in English schools remained about the same, though there was a slight increase in the number of schools. Candidates for the School Leaving and Matriculation examinations were considerably fewer than in the previous year, but that year was abnormal in this respect. The cause of secondary English education should receive material assistance in the near future from the establishment of intermediate colleges; delay has unfortunately occurred in the establishment of such colleges at Almora, Jhansi, and Fyzabad, but arrangements are in train to enable them to be opened with effect from July, 1921. The opinion of the Senate of the Allahabad University has been invited upon a proposal to establish a Board of High School and Intermediate Education.

Training institutions.

55. The programme for the expansion of primary education has called attention to the necessity of providing a considerably larger number of trained teachers than the present training institutions can supply. Fifty-four per cent. of the total staff is untrained and the importance of having trained teachers cannot be exaggerated. The number of training classes expanded during the year from 265 to 505, and the number of students in training from 1,783 to 3,745. A new Training College has recently been opened at Agra but more are still required. It is intended to open more as rapidly as circumstances permit.

Female education.

56. The year saw an increase of 96 in the total number of institutions for Indian girls, and a rise in the number of girl scholars from 53,641 to 57,996. The main advance was made by secondary vernacular schools; although the number of primary schools and their enrolment increased considerably on paper, not much real progress is reported. Such progress as there is would appear to be almost entirely confined to the towns. The large majority of teachers in girls' primary schools remain untrained, but steps are now being taken to remedy this state of affairs. The boards are being promised assistance in various measures of reform, such as the maintenance of district inspectresses, the raising of the pay of women teachers, and the increase of stipends paid to women attending training classes. The opening of a large number of training classes has also been decided upon, the goal in view being one training class in each district, and a beginning is being made by attaching classes to the model schools at Pilibhit, Bijnor, and Basti. The establishment of four additional normal schools, as soon as funds can be provided has also been sanctioned.

Depressed classes.

57. The number of schools maintained expressly for children of the depressed classes rose from 160 to 208, and of scholars reading in them from 4,077 to 6,210, while children of these classes reading in general schools increased by nearly 5,500. The beginning of a systematic attempt to deal

with the problem of the depressed classes was made during the year. The experiment was tried in three districts of appointing a special supervisor to stimulate a demand for education among these classes, and the results of the experiment were so encouraging that it has been decided to offer assistance to all district boards willing to embark on a similar campaign. The replies received and the views of Commissioners expressed in their reviews of district board reports indicate a considerable difference of opinion as regards the possibilities of progress. As with female education the task of uprooting the prejudices and changing the customs of centuries is not easy and it is plain that little advance can be expected without the application of a special stimulus. Given that stimulus, however, there seems no reason to despair.

POLITICS AND THE PRESS.

General tone of Press.

58. The Press as a whole was bitterly critical in tone throughout the year. All papers wrote strongly on the subject of the Punjab; nearly all Muslim papers took up an extreme attitude on the *Khilafat* question; while on the subject of the Reforms there was a clearly marked division into two groups, of which the extremist group was considerably the larger. The Rowlatt Bills met with general opposition from the beginning and only three papers of any importance disapproved of the *Satyagraha* campaign from its inception. though a few others were wise after the event. Apart from the general disapproval visited on the administration of martial law in the Punjab, criticism was specially bitter on the passage of the Criminal Emergency Power Act, during the discussion on the Indemnity Bill, and on the appointment of Sir Michael O'Dwyer to the Army Commission. The extremist press professed dissatisfaction with the personnel of the D sorders Enquiry Committee from the outset and also with the methods of procedure adopted by the committee Racial feeling continued to be strong. Indignant articles on the disabilities of Indians in the Colonies were frequent and the special legislation on the subject in South Africa was freely condemned. In the numerous strikes which occurred during the year the sympathy of the Press was with the strikers. The republican movement in Ireland was watched with sympathy and encouragement was held out to China in her resistance to Japanese encroachment.

Peace terms.

59. Little attention was given to the Peace negotiations with non-Muslim countries, though the general verdict on their conclusion was that the terms were harsh, inconsistent with President Wilson's fourteen points, and unlikely to lead to a lasting peace. The League of Nations was regarded with suspicion as a device for preserving the supremacy of the strong over the weak. Interest chiefly centred, however, round the question of the terms to be imposed on Turkey. The absence of a Muslim representative at the Peace Conference was deplored. Even the most moderate Muslim papers urged that the conquered provinces of the Turkish Empire should be left under Turkish suzerainty. During the period from June to October, 1919, feeling on the question was less intense and the papers did little more than manifest their support of the efforts which were being made by Indian Muslims in London. Interest was, however, quickened by the All-India Muslim Conference held at Lucknow in September and with the observance of a *Khilafat* Day in October violence of tone again appeared. The Greek claims greatly exacerbated feeling and from this time the Muslim papers presented a solid front in support of their extremist leaders.

Persia and Afghanistan.

60. The Anglo-Persian agreement was vigorously condemned as further evidence of the policy of exploitation and absorption of Asiatic countries. The murder of the late Amir of Afghanistan was attributed to the unpopularity of his pro-British policy. The outbreak of war, however, proved that Afghanistan had few supporters in India. The Government of India was blamed for having encouraged the Afghans to attack by the declaration that the Punjab was in a state of rebellion. Peace was welcomed when it came though its terms were criticized and the danger of an Afghan-Bolshevik alliance was pointed out.

The Reforms.

61. The actual shaping of the reforms excited comparatively little interest until June, when the despatch of the Government of India on the subject was condemned as illiberal, and keen support was accorded to the dissentient minute of Sir Sankaran Nair. The proceedings of the Joint Committee in England elicited little comment. Its recommendations were at first denounced but subsequently this hostile attitude was somewhat modified.

SUPPLEMENTARY CHAPTER.

APRIL TO DECEMBER, 1920

GENERAL CONDITIONS.

Weather.

1. The prospects of a complete recovery from the scarcity of 1918 continued to be favourable until the latter part of August, 1920, when hopes were for the time being dispelled by the abrupt cessation of the monsoon, which did not re-appear to any appreciable extent in any part of the province. April was practically rainless and seasonable for harvesting and winnowing operations. Rainfall in May and June was above the normal in most parts of the province, while heavy and continuous rain was received in July everywhere except in the Bundelkhand division. The falls in the first half of August were general, but the amount received in the latter half was inadequate and only in a few eastern districts was the subsequent rainfall sufficient for requirements. The failure was most pronounced in the western districts, while among the eastern districts the Benares and Gorakhpur divisions fared better than the rest. From September to the end of December there has been practically no rain anywhere.

Crops.

2. The early withdrawal of the monsoon, together with westerly hot winds which prevailed in October severely affected the *kharif* crop in the unirrigated tract, and the average yield of all crops for the province as a whole works out to only 62 per cent. of the normal. *Rabi* sowings commenced somewhat later than usual in the hopes of rain and agricultural operations were retarded in some of the western districts by lack of moisture. Figures of *rabi* sowings are not yet available, but the area is expected to be below normal. Prospects depend on winter rains. At the close of the year the standing crops were reported to be in a fair condition.

Prices.

3. The prices of all the principal food-grains have risen considerably since April. Wheat rose from 7·25 seers to the rupee in that month to 6·25 seers in November; barley rose from just under 11 seers to 8·25 seers and gram from 8·75 seers to 7·25 seers. Maize and *juar* have risen to much the same extent. Rice has not fluctuated much. Statistics for December are not available, but it is believed that prices have remained almost stationary during this month.

SECURITY.

Criminal statistics.

4. The marked feature of the crime returns for 1920 is the general decrease there has been in crime as a whole. It is impossible to give accurate statistics under each head at the present time, but it may be noted that the total number of dacoities reported during the year was only about 680 as compared with 1,502 in 1919 and 1,954 in 1918, and some of these will ultimately be expunged as false. The figures given for 1919 and 1918 exclude false cases. During the first three months of the year no less than 250 dacoities were reported, but the monthly figure was very low in the months which followed, and it is only since the beginning of November that crimes of this class have again begun to increase. Even at the present time

the monthly figures do not approach those of the earlier months of 1919. Moreover, speaking generally, dacoities have been much less serious than in the two preceding years. Except in the submontane districts of the Rohilkhand division, in which there has recently been a recrudescence of dacoity by Bhantus, no professional gangs of dacoits appear to be now at large. Some excellent captures were made in individual cases and in two cases superintendents of police were themselves responsible for the arrest of notorious dacoits who had long defied the police. A similar decrease has occurred in practically every other class of offence against property. For instance, reports of robbery, which reached a total of 999 in 1918 and 1917 in 1919, were less than 500, and cases of burglary and house-breaking, which numbered more than 65,000 in 1918, and reached the figure of 71,162 in 1919, total considerably less than 35,000 for 1920. There has also been a marked decrease in the more serious forms of offence against the person. The total number of murders reported is only 650, while in both 1919 and 1918 a total of more than 800 was reached.

Investigations and results.

5. It is impossible to give full figures regarding the results of police investigations at the present time. A large number of cases are still pending. Less success, however, has been met with in prosecuting dacoities to conviction and the figures so far received seem to indicate a considerable fall in conviction under the other major heads of crime. This may be largely attributed to the fact that expert criminals have been responsible for a far larger percentage of the total number of reported crimes than in 1919.

Police administration.

6. There has been little alteration in the strength of the force. The pinch of high prices has been severely felt by the lower-paid subordinates and this has caused a certain amount of unrest in the ranks. Even so, however, the number of men who have left the force on resignation has decreased from 1,718 to approximately 1,300. Resignations have occurred mostly in the larger centres, such as Agra, Meerut, Allahabad, and Lucknow; in the smaller districts, where work is lighter and incidental expenses are not so heavy as in the larger cities, the number of resignations has been small. In consequence of the admitted necessity for giving higher rates of pay to members of the subordinate police, the committee appointed to report on conditions of service in the non-gazetted ranks, was called upon in June, 1920, to submit definite proposals for increasing the pay of those officers, and revised rates of pay, involving an additional expenditure of about Rs. 35 lakhs per annum were sanctioned with effect from the 1st April, 1920. These increases included substantial city allowances to head constables and constables stationed at the larger centres. The committee have made further proposals for substantially improving the conditions of service in the lower ranks and these are now under consideration. At a time when unrest was general and political complications added largely to their work and responsibility, the behaviour of the force as a whole has been excellent. Attempts have been made in various ways to undermine their loyalty and to induce them to resign, but in almost every instance they have failed.

PROVINCIAL FINANCE.

7. The budget of 1920-21 made provision for a considerable increase in recurring expenditure, chiefly on account of salaries, which in all services and establishments had become inadequate as a result of the increased cost

of living. It also provided considerable sums for non-recurring expenditure on various schemes of improvement, long projected but postponed because of the general financial stringency caused by the war. The estimated expenditure exceeded the estimated revenue by over 135 lakhs; and it was only possible to find the money by drawing to that extent on the balances—a procedure that involved the meeting of recurring expenditure from non-recurring resources. During the course of the year the position has grown worse. The provision made for recurring expenditure on salaries proved totally insufficient. Against a sum of 50 lakhs provided, the cost is likely to amount to something between 130 and 140 lakhs. This expenditure could only be met by resuming an equal amount of the provision for non-recurring expenditure. At the end of the current year, therefore, the province will find itself faced with the fact that it has accepted a very large addition to its recurring expenditure, and has still to carry out the major part of the programme of improvement which was delayed as a result of the war. Revenue has expanded, but it has not expanded fast enough to keep pace with the growth of expenditure. The Reforms Scheme will bring in large additional revenues, but it will also bring new commitments. When provision has been made for a conservative budget of expenditure during 1921-22, plus the new recurring charges for salaries, plus the new charges consequent on the Reforms Scheme, there will be little or no surplus revenue. It is obvious, therefore, that if the province is not to resign itself to stagnation for an indefinite period, measures must be taken to increase its resources and recourse will have to be had either to increased taxation, or the creation of public debt. It seems not unlikely that both will be required.

EXCISE.

Income.

8. Conditions during the first quarter of the current financial year were especially favourable to a more extended use of all excisable articles. Agricultural prospects were fair and wages were high, while in view of the approach of a protracted inauspicious marriage period an exceptional number of marriages were celebrated. Consumption rose in consequence considerably, especially consumption of country spirit. With the exception of the marriage factor, conditions were equally favourable at the beginning of the second quarter, but consumption soon received a severe check from the untimely cessation of the monsoon. Taking the first six months of the year as a whole, consumption of country spirit increased by 23·5 per cent. and hemp drugs of all kinds by 9·5 per cent, while consumption of opium declined by 2·3 per cent. as compared with the corresponding period of the previous year. Revenue increased by 13·5 per cent. The probability is that these favourable results of the first half of the year will be dissipated by the unfavourable economic conditions of the second half.

Policy.

9. Important changes will come into effect from the 1st April, 1921. Very considerable enhancements of duty have been sanctioned from that date. The contract system for supply of country spirit will then come into force over the entire province with the exception of backward tracts, where the outstill is at present the only possible system. Arrangements have also been made to give a trial next year to the system of sale of country spirit in sealed bottles. With a view to expansion of revenue from hemp drugs and

closer control over their sale, the substitution of the contract supply for the farming system now in force has been under consideration. It has been decided, however, as the change is an important one, to hold over the question for the consideration of the new Government. During the year a beginning has been made with the introduction of the Madras tree-tax system as applied to taxation of *tari*.

MUNICIPALITIES.

10. During the last month of the calendar year the Town Improvement Act was extended to Allahabad and an Improvement Trust constituted for this municipality. An Improvement Committee has also been appointed for Naini Tal to draw up a preliminary report on the lines adopted in Lucknow, Cawnpore, and Allahabad.

VITAL STATISTICS.

11. The actual total recorded number of births and deaths for the year 1920, is not yet available, but the estimated figures of vital statistics show that the year was much healthier than its predecessor There was a marked decline in mortality from both cholera and fever; small-pox, "all other causes," and injuries also showing slight improvements. A somewhat increased mortality is, however, noticeable under the heads plague and respiratory diseases; while dysentery and diarrhoea return a very slight excess. Cases of influenza (ordinarily of a mild type) occurred in certain districts in the early part of the year, but the disease appears to have died down in the latter half. The special feature of the year is the very low death rate recorded from cholera—the districts included in the cholera scheme giving an estimated number of 3,700 deaths during 1920, against an average of 38,508 deaths for the seven years of the working of the scheme. Bleaching powder having been found of doubtful efficacy in sterilizing wells, the use of potassium permanganate in connection with the cholera scheme was reverted to. During the year under report about six and a half tons of the chemical was supplied to the twenty districts of the Lucknow, Fyzabad, Gorakhpur, and Benares divisions at a cost of Rs. 55,806. The estimated birth rate of the year is higher than that of 1919, while the infantile mortality rate is lower than those of the preceding two years.

EDUCATION.

The Primary Education Act.

12. Rules have now been made by Government under the United Provinces Primary Education Act, which provides for the introduction of compulsory primary education in municipalities. The draft rules were submitted for criticism to a considerable body of non-official opinion and have been made very much more liberal in consequence of the suggestions and criticisms received. It is recognized that for some time to come it may be necessary to allow relaxation of the conditions which are usually imposed as regards the qualifications of teachers and accommodation facilities. Some municipalities may now be expected to come up for the application of the Act, but it is to be feared that in most cases financial considerations will be an effectual bar, although the Local Government has promised to give generous assistance. In many municipalities, an improvement in their present educational facilities is a condition precedent to the application of the Act. Primary schools situated in municipal areas do not compare at all favourably

with those maintained by district boards. The proportion of untrained teachers in the municipal schools is higher, and the schools also suffer from lack of inspection and are generally less efficient than district board schools.

Improvement in position of staff. Secondary vernacular education.

13. The scales of pay of the higher educational staff were revised last year, but it has only been found possible in the current year to effect an improvement in the position of the large number of teachers in district board secondary and primary schools. When measures were taken in 1918 for a wide expansion of primary education, no provision was made for an increase in the number of vernacular middle schools. As however the vernacular secondary school is the recruiting ground for primary school teachers, progressive expansion of primary education is dependent on such increase, and provision has now been made accordingly. In sanctioning a scheme which provides for the erection of a large number of new middle school buildings and a large increase in the size of the middle school staff the Local Government at the same time laid down a revised scale of pay for the staff and undertook to find not only the greater part of the cost of the building programme, amounting to nearly 28 lakhs, but also the whole additional recurring expenditure entailed by the expansion and revision of the pay of the staff. The scheme was put into operation with effect from June, 1920.

Primary education.

14. The question of an adequate improvement in the pay of primary school teachers presented still greater difficulty. The Local Government has laid down the scales which it considers should be applied, but the cost of bringing them into effect would amount to over Rs. 18 lakhs a year, and it is not in a position to contribute the whole of this amount. To enable the district boards, however, to give a minimum measure of relief Government has offered to meet the cost to the extent of Rs. 11 lakhs a year, subject to the sanction as regards future years of the Legislative Council. This partial measure of relief is being granted from the 1st November, 1920. It is hoped that boards which are in a position to do so will introduce the full scale at an early date. It may be added that expenditure on primary education has increased from Rs. 30 lakhs in 1918-19 to Rs. 63 lakhs in 1921-22 and the share of these amounts contributed by Government from Rs. 14 lakhs to Rs. 47 lakhs, respectively.

POLITICS.

15. Political agitation continued throughout 1920 without any abatement. In the earlier part of the year the *khilafat* question was the chief weapon used, and any fresh material that came to hand in this connection was snapped up with avidity. Non-co-operation with or without violence was preached with feverish enthusiasm which never flagged during the months which preceded the announcement of the Turkish Peace terms in May. The necessity for taking steps to translate ideas into acts then produced a brief lull, during which the sober elements of the population grew somewhat reconciled to the actualities of the situation. In the beginning of June the Central *Khilafat* Committee appointed a sub-committee headed by Mr. Gandhi to bring non-co-operation into practice without delay. At that time the support of the Hindus had not been obtained; they were lukewarm on the subject of non-co-operation, and the failure of the *hijrat* movement, which did not take root in these provinces, served further to discredit the *khilafat*

leaders. The brutal assassination in August of the popular District Officer of Kheri by *khilafat* fanatics revealed to all moderate men the dangers inherent in the movement.

16. In October, however, Mr. Gandhi obtained a verdict in favour of non-co-operation from the Special Congress held at Calcutta and the following months were devoted by the extremist leaders to impassioned appeals to city mobs to non-co-operate with Government. To give the movement a chance of success it was necessary to win over the Hindus and more stress has therefore been laid latterly on the humiliation inflicted on all Indians by the military law measures taken in the Punjab in 1919 than on Turkish grievances. So far the non-co-operation movement beyond causing considerable unsettlement among students and school-boys has met with little success. In particular the well-organized campaign for the boycott of the elections was a signal failure. Some two dozen persons most of whom had little or no chance of election withdrew their candidature, and a considerable number of voters in some places were discouraged from voting. Unrest has, however, been carried to many places where it was formerly unknown and has found fertile soil among discontented cultivators and labourers. Violence of tone has increased as the failure of the agitation has become more pronounced and signs have not been wanting of endeavours to compel Government to to take action and create martyrs. Despite the obvious dangers in allowing unscrupulous men to play on the passions of excitable and ignorant mobs the policy of Government has been one of forbearance. Action has only been taken against really violent and dangerous agitators. There is every indication that this policy has weakened the influence of the extremist leaders and strengthened the position of Government with men of moderation and common-sense.

THE PRESS.

17. The general attitude of the Press has remained much the same, the virulence of the Muslim papers where Turkey is concerned showing little signs of abating. The Prime Minister after his reply to the *khilafat* deputation was charged with breach of his pledges and it was suggested that while France on the whole had shown herself reasonable the economic lust of England stood in the way of an equitable settlement. The massacred Armenians received little sympathy, while considerable solicitude was displayed for the Muslim sufferers in Smyrna. The majority report of the Hunter Committee met with unqualified condemnation which acquired additional acrimony as a result of the debate in the House of Lords and the raising of the Dyer fund. The murder of the Deputy Commissioner of Kheri was generally condemned, though the advanced papers concerned themselves chiefly with efforts to prove that it had no connection with the *khilafat* agitation. From the time that Mr. Gandhi brought about the fusion of the *khilafat* and Punjab agitations and took steps to initiate an active non-co-operation campaign it would be difficult to find an issue of any paper of importance which would not furnish evidence of the exacerbation of Indian feeling over the Punjab tragedy. The leading moderate paper, the *Leader* of Allahabad, must, however, be excepted; it published strong articles on the subject for a considerable time, but did not imitate the extremist papers in

their perseverance in what can only be described as a campaign of hate. The *Independent*, which is the principal extremist paper, was at first, under the editorship of Mr. B. C. Pal, doubtful of the efficacy of non-co-operation, but championed it strongly as soon as he vacated the editorial chair. Several important papers opposed the movement from the start and towards the end of the year the attacks of the non-co-operators on Government aided educational institutions together with the more eccentric pronouncements of the leader of the movement had an appreciable effect in decreasing further the number of its supporters. The movement has still, however, a strong hold on the younger generation and journals which do not pander to their tastes must expect to suffer in circulation. Considerable attention was devoted to the threatened wholesale return of emigrants from Fiji and to the Government despatch on the subject of the treatment of Indians in East Africa. The Esher Committee's report was generally condemned on the score of racial prejudice. Its critics asserted that it was designed to make the military supreme, to reserve high posts for Englishmen and to keep India in perpetual subjection. Extremist papers accorded a considerable measure of support to the workers in the numerous strikes which occurred during the year. The result of the elections was hailed by the advanced papers, which are still greatly in the majority, as a triumph for the non-co-operators. Towards the end of the year the most important extremist journal began to advocate, though somewhat academically, the as-yet-unformulated demand for *swarajya* without the Empire.

The elections.

18. The elections for the new Legislative Council of the Reformed Government took place for general constituencies on the 30th November. In 24 constituencies the numbers were returned unopposed and in the remaining 66 the elections were contested. Among the six special constituencies there were contests only in the Agra Landholders (North) Constituency and in the University Constituency. It would be premature to discuss the political tendencies of the new Council, but it may be mentioned that among those elected are 13 barristers, 31 legal practitioners other than barristers, 46 landholders, and two members of the medical profession. Out of a total electorate of 1,002,829 in the constituencies where polling took place, 323,990, or 33 per cent. recorded their votes. The highest percentage of votes recorded in any district was 64; in five constituencies more than 60 per cent. of the electors exercised their rights and in eight other constituencies the percentage was over 50. When it is remembered that in many places considerable pressure was brought to bear to deter electors from voting, the figures are quite as high as could be expected. It would be an exaggeration to say that electors generally realized the importance of the event in which they were taking part, or the issues involved. In the rural constituencies the tenantry as a whole do not appear to have yet realised the power which has been placed in their hands. But there are not wanting signs that they are gradually awakening to the change.

PART II.

DEPARTMENTAL CHAPTERS.

CHAPTER I.—PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

1—Physical features, area, climate and chief staples.

(See pages 1 to 6 of the report of 1911-12.)

LIBRARY OF THE BOMBAY BRANCH OF THE ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY.

2—Political.

(For details see the annual reports on the administration of the Rampur, Tehri and Benares States.)

RAMPUR.

Revenue administration.

1. There was a slight decrease of rather less than a lakh in receipts and a decrease of more than Rs. 4½ lakhs in expenditure. The demand under land revenue rose from Rs. 35·66 to Rs. 36·19 lakhs, the increase being chiefly due to the leasing out of 182 villages on higher terms. Collections were much the same as in the previous year.

General.

2. The conclusion of peace was celebrated in Rampur in a manner befitting the occasion. His Highness contributed one lakh towards the expenditure incurred on the hospital ship "Loyalty" and has also added, as a further contribution to the war, the expenditure of Rs. 2,28,813 which was incurred by the Durbar on the Imperial Service Troops in excess of the ordinary peace expenditure.

Agriculture.

3. The failure of the 1918 monsoon together with the influenza epidemic resulted in a considerable decrease in the cultivated area from 372,494 to 342,881 acres. In 1919 the rains were insufficient and commenced late. This curtailed the *kharif* area and the year closed with prospects little better than those with which it had commenced.

General condition of the people.

4. Unsatisfactory harvests, epidemics both of influenza and cholera together with abnormally high prices impoverished and weakened the people generally, though wages rose both in the rural area and in the city.

Excise.

5. There was a slight decrease in the total consumption of country liquor, but little change in the demand under this head. The demand under opium rose somewhat owing to the increase in the price. The charas demand was much the same as last year The demand for the year under all three heads was realized in full and some of the arrears from past years was also collected.

Police.

6. There was again a satisfactory decline in the number of crimes reported from 737 to 705. The decrease is found chiefly under the heads of Dacoity and Robbery and Hurt and Burglary. Under Culpable Homicide there was no change. Murder cases increased from 6 to 13, ordinary theft cases from 101 to 105 and cattle theft cases from 25 to 42.

Medical.

7. The year was extremely unhealthy with influenza, pneumonia and small-pox prevalent, and resulted in a large increase in the death rate the total number (of deaths) being 30,048 as against 12,722 in the previous year. Births decreased from 7,805 to 6,535.

Education.

8. A still further decline has to be reported in the figures under the head of Education. The total number of scholars on the roll fell from 4,542 to 4,087, and the number of schools from 123 to 118. There were fewer numbers at the High school, Madrasa-i-Alia and the City Vernacular Middle school as well as in primary schools. Five village schools were closed owing to lack of interest among the people concerned and poor attendance. Twenty-nine candidates out of 35 from the Madrasa-i-Alia were successful in various examinations of the Punjab University.

TEHRI.

9. His Highness the Maharaja completed his education at the Mayo College, Ajmere, where he has spent five years and returned to Tehri in May, 1918. Mr. G. B. F. Muir, I.C.S., continued to occupy the position of President of the Council of Regency and finished his task of overhauling and reorganizing all the more important departments of the State. The income of the State totalled Rs. 13·45 lakhs, an increase of Rs. 2·74 lakhs. Expenditure under all heads amounted to Rs. 16·66 lakhs as compared with 10·42 lakhs in the previous year, but 5 lakhs of this is accounted for by an investment in War Loan Bonds. The season was unfavourable and both crops suffered from scanty and untimely rainfall. Takavi amounting to Rs. 3 lakhs was advanced to people of the most affected tracts and a poor house and a relief dépôt were also opened. Prices and wages continued high. The State enjoyed practical immunity from cholera and small-pox, but influenza caused about 3,000 deaths. The land survey and settlement operations are continuing satisfactorily. The forest settlement was taken in hand in the Tehri range during the year and 87·20 square miles were completed. Village schools are reported to have worked satisfactorily, but the number on the roll at the Pratap High school again declined and the attendance also deteriorated. On the outbreak of war with Afghanistan the Durbar placed its resources at the disposal of the Government of India and a detachment of the Imperial Service Sappers was sent to the North-West Frontier in May, 1919.

BENARES STATE.

10. The most important event of the year was the transfer of Ramnagar town and some adjacent villages to the State. The transfer was announced by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor at a Durbar at Fort Ramnagar on the 6th August, 1919.

The total receipts from all sources amounted to Rs. 20·37 lakhs and the expenditure under all heads aggregated Rs. 20·74 lakhs as compared with Rs. 25·14 and Rs. 24·52 lakhs respectively in the previous year. In that year War Loan investments to the amount of 5 lakhs were included on both sides of the financial statement and raised the figures to abnormal proportions. Both receipts and expenditure exceeded the estimates and the more important revenue heads showed increases. The year was not favourable for agriculture. Crops suffered either from scanty or excessive rain, and both in Bhadohi and Chakia the cultivated area was less than in the previous year. Relief measures included the opening of relief works, the distribution of gratuitous relief and the opening of shops for the sale of cheap grain and standard cloth. Cholera was not severe and the State was practically free from plague, but influenza caused over 12,000 deaths. Prices continued high and this had a bad effect upon the condition of the people generally.

There was again an increase in the number of persons brought to trial before the criminal courts, and, as was to be expected in view of the conditions which prevailed, statistics of crime generally showed an increase. The number of convictions obtained in cognizable cases rose from 155 to 253.

An increase of four in the number of vernacular schools and of 100 in the number of scholars is to be attributed to the inclusion in the State during the year of the Ramnagar town. But for this the number of scholars would have fallen by some 200. The number of scholars both at the Meston High school at Ramnagar and the Lovett High school at Gyanpur again fell. This decline is due to the influenza epidemic and the unfavourable economic conditions of the year. Sanskrit classes at the Lovett High school appear to be making little headway. A Sanskrit class was opened in Chakia during the year. The number of Girls' schools increased by one, but the difficulty noticed last year of obtaining suitable teachers was again felt and the Girls' school at Gyanpur had to be closed for want of a mistress for part of the year.

3—Historical summary.

4—Form of administration.

5—Character of land tenure and system of survey and settlement.

6—Civil divisions of British territory.

7—Details of last census, tribes and language.

(For sections 3 to 7 see pages 8 to 41 of the report for the year 1911-12.)

8—Change in administration.

11. The Hon'ble Sir Spencer Harcourt Butler, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., held charge of the provinces throughout the year.

9—Relations with tributary States and frontier affairs.

12. Boundary disputes between the Gwalior State and the Etawah district and between the Kalsia State and the Saharanpur district were settled during the year. The settlement of disputes between various other districts and States was in progress.

10—Condition of the people.

(For details see the annual report on the revenue administration by the Board of Revenue for the year ending the 30th September, 1919.)

Season and crops.

13. The character of the first part of the revenue year which ended on the 30th September, 1919 was alluded to in last year's report. The uninterrupted prosperity of the three preceding years was broken by the failure of the monsoon of 1918. The scanty and fitful showers of early June were insufficient even for sowings over most of the province, and no adequate rainfall occurred until the third week of August when late crops were hastily sown. Insufficient and purely local rain in September and a rainless October destroyed all hopes for unirrigated crops, except in parts of the more easterly divisions and some submontane tracts.

Throughout the winter there was considerable scarcity of fodder and pasturage; for the *bhusa* of the previous *rabi* was scarce and dear, fodder crops had failed in the *kharif*, and the despatch of hay from the Government forests was delayed by the shortage of railway wagons and the influenza epidemic. The rains of January brought up some more grass and further relief was felt as soon as the new *rabi* was harvested, when demands for Government hay at once fell off.

The severe outbreak of influenza in the autumn and the resultant debility handicapped the cultivators at the season when the work of preparation and irrigation was most urgent. Owing to late rains the *rabi* crops were more back-ward than ever when hot winds set in early in March and caused further considerable damage. The *rabi* outturn, however, all things considered, was not unsatisfactory, but the smallness of the area sown—the smallest area for ten years—prevented it from affording much relief. The price of food-grains attained an unprecedentedly high level, and relief operations were necessary in a considerable number of districts, and continued throughout the summer.

The 1919 monsoon was fairly satisfactory and resulted in a *kharif* harvest not much below the normal. Rainfall in June was below normal throughout the provinces; in July all districts except Meerut and Kheri received sufficient rain, while Bundelkhand received too much. August was a month of heavy rainfall, but its distribution was not altogether favourable for the crop system of the provinces. Heavy rain was received generally in the first two weeks of September and was followed by a much

needed break. The total *kharif* area increased by 7 per cent., and was shared by all but four districts. The yield of all crops showed an improvement, early rice, *juar* and *bajra* doing the best.

Prices, trade and health.

14. Prices throughout the year continued to rule high. Any relief which might have been expected from the armistice was more than neutralized by the scarcity prevailing almost throughout India. There was an abnormal demand on these provinces for all sorts of foodgrains. Gram and rice were scarce, maize and barley were the cheapest grains. *Juar* and *bajra* rose to the price of wheat and gram, while rice varied from three to five seers to the rupee. Cloth and kerosine oil were at times and at places unobtainable.

The provincial balance of trade naturally shifted. Imports, which in the preceding year had dropped by over 100 lakhs, rose by 109 lakhs of maunds in weight and Rs. 1,367 lakhs in value, the bulk of this increase being in foodgrains. Imports of grain and pulse, which had been steadily declining during three years of good harvests, now trebled. No less than 62 lakhs of maunds of rice were received from Burma, Bihar and Orissa and Bengal. Imports of oilseeds were the largest on record, while salt partially recovered from the decline of the previous year and receipts of refined sugar were larger than before. Exports of wheat, chiefly to Karachi and Bombay, continued heavy during the first half of the year, but they fell when Government control came into force. With the failure of the cotton crop exports of cotton continued to decline. Railway plant and hides and skins also fell off, but exports of fodder, mostly for Army purposes, maintained the increase of the year before. Consignments of oilseeds rose and the exports of sugar were the largest on record, since the cane crop of 1917-18 was a good one and prices were high.

The year was abnormally unhealthy. In October and November the province was swept by an unprecedented epidemic of influenza which continued to prevail in some districts for some time longer. This, combined with pneumonia and relapsing fever, caused the deaths of about 36·07 lakhs of people or 8 per cent. of the total population as compared with 21·92 lakhs last year and 16·63 lakhs the year before that. Plague was exceptionally mild and caused only 17,000 deaths as against two lakhs in the previous year. Cholera was rather less virulent, but caused as many as 90,000 deaths.

CHAPTER II.—ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

11—Realization of the land revenue.

(*For details see the annual report on the revenue administration of the Board of Revenue for the year ending the 30th September*, 1919.)

Total demand and collection.

15. The total demand on account of land revenue, cesses and rates amounted in round figures to Rs. 986 lakhs of which Rs. 815 lakhs were collected and Rs. 62 lakhs remitted, leaving a balance of Rs. 108 lakhs. Of the latter the principal items were suspensions of over Rs. 44 lakhs of land revenue and of Rs. 42 lakhs on account of advances under the Agriculturists' and Land Improvement Loans and the Bundelkhand Encumbered Estates Acts; also outstandings of Rs. 18 lakhs of taqavi and of loans under Act XII.

Land revenue.

16. The demand under land revenue was Rs. 659 lakhs, of which Rs. 552 lakhs were collected, Rs. 60 lakhs remitted, Rs. 44 lakhs suspended and Rs. 14,391 postponed. The real balance outstanding at the close of the year was only Rs. 44,656.

The nature of the relief necessitated by the failure of the monsoon was determined by a consideration of both *kharif* and *rabi* harvests; areas which suffered in the *rabi* were very commonly the same as had failed in the *kharif* and where both harvests had failed *kharif* suspensions were freely remitted. In Muzaffarnagar, Meerut, Budaun, Moradabad, Etah and Shahjahanpur, several lakhs were suspended in each district, while remissions were small;

in Agra, Muttra, Farrukhabad, Etawah, Cawnpore, Unao and Hardoi the reverse occurred, that is to say, there were fairly large remissions and few suspensions; while in Bundelkhand remissions outright were liberally granted with no suspensions. No revenue relief was found necessary in the Fyzabad division and only a few postponements in Gorakhpur and Kumaun, while the Benares division only needed a few suspensions.

Rates.

17. There was again an increase of nearly Rs. 13 lakhs in the demand for occupier's rate, this being due to the drought. Increases occurred in all the Canal divisions except Bundelkhand. Here the decrease, which was largest in Jalaun and Hamirpur, was caused by the breakdown of the weir at Pahari. The whole realizable demand was collected within the year except Rs. 21,380 or ·19 per cent. Of the amount left outstanding Agra was responsible for Rs. 9,411, Muttra for Rs. 4,531, and Saharanpur for Rs. 2,804. The demand for owner's rates rose from Rs. 1·01 to Rs. 1·13 lakhs of which all was collected except Rs. 684.

Advances.

18. The experience of previous famines had proved the enormous value of takavi as a measure of relief and it was liberally granted, therefore, in the year under report, the total amount advanced under the Agricultural Loans and Improvements Acts being no less than Rs. 208 lakhs as compared with less than Rs. 10 lakhs in the previous year. In 1913-14 the total amount advanced was about Rs. 190 lakhs. In that year more was advanced under Act XIX and less under Act XII, chiefly because in 1919 work on masonry wells was hampered by the shortage of labour and the high cost of materials; while much more was given under Act XII, because seed was extraordinarily expensive and yet it was imperative to steady and occupy the people by getting as large a *rabi* area as possible sown; hence no less than 101 lakhs of rupees were distributed for seed alone and Rs. 13 lakhs for temporary wells.

Of the Rs. 22 lakhs advanced under Act XIX nearly Rs. 16 lakhs were for masonry wells and over Rs. 6 lakhs for embankments. In regard to masonry wells it is reported that 2,943 were constructed and 2,819 repaired, while 6,219 were under construction and 554 under repair. By far the largest recipient district for this purpose was Etah where nearly Rs. 4 lakhs were advanced and 567 wells were completed. Hardoi also took Rs. 2½ lakhs and completed 160 wells, while over 1,000 were under construction. Jaunpur distributed over one lakh and built 468 wells. As regards embankments about Rs. 65,000 went to Allahabad and practically the whole of the remainder to Bundelkhand. By far the greatest activity was, as usual, shown in Banda where field embankments are both popular and successful, though difficulties sometimes arise about their repair and upkeep.

Of the Rs. 185 lakhs distributed under Act XII, Rohilkhand took over 40 for seed, 10 for sugarcane and nearly 4 for temporary wells, and in this division Shahjahanpur was the district which received most. Act XII was also usefully employed for the relief of cattle, Rs. 8 lakhs being advanced for fodder and hay to keep cattle alive, and Rs. 50 lakhs to replace those that were lost. Of the former sum practically the whole went to the divisions of Jhansi, Agra and Allahabad; while the takavi to purchase new bullocks was distributed chiefly in the Agra, Allahabad, Jhansi and Rohilkhand divisions.

In addition to the above Rs. 6 lakhs were distributed for subsistence, Rs. 28,600 going to Garhwal and practically all the rest to Bundelkhand—a concession to the old-fashioned and leisurely habits of the high caste Bundelkhandi.

In a year when liberal new advances were being made it was inevitable that collections should fall off. The total demand falling due totalled Rs. 126·65 lakhs, but Rs. 41·62 lakhs had to be suspended or postponed owing to crop failure and the nett demand was Rs. 85·03 lakhs, of which Rs. 66·51 lakhs or 78 per cent. were collected, leaving the considerable overdue balance of Rs. 18·51 lakhs, of which Rs. 4·12 lakhs were under Act XIX and Rs. 14·39 lakhs were under Act XII. As usual, the largest defaulters were the districts of Agra and Etah where the accumulation of heavy arrears has admittedly become a habit. In Muttra, although the year's nett

demand was collected in full, this result was only achieved by the suspension or postponement of no less than Rs. 8·73 lakhs. The burden of debt and of deferred recovery is heavy also in Bundelkhand and Rohilkhand, specially in Shahjahanpur where the Board of Revenue considers that there is a tendency to excessive leniency. In many of these districts with the return of better prospects the punctual recovery of demands as they fall due will call for the earnest attention of the Collectors concerned.

Coercive processes.

19. The number of coercive processes issued during the year was slightly in excess of the previous year. The total number was 185,186, a fairly normal figure. In 1913-14 the scarcity had caused a substantial drop and in the year under report there was in fact a decrease in every form of process except the comparatively mild writs of demand which rose by 6,382; and even writs of demand declined for every other purpose except the collection of mutation fines which showed an increase of 7,821. Of the total, citations alone account for 109,632, and it is seen everywhere that they are the most effective kind of process, specially in dealing with numerous petty proprietors. Warrants of arrest declined by 2,804 or 18·25 per cent. and cases in which persons were actually detained numbered 1,099 as against 1,975 in the previous year.

12—Settlements.

20. The settlements of Gorakhpur, Basti and Bulandshahr were all in their final stages and the Settlement Officers of these districts submitted their final reports during the year. Good progress was made in the work of assessment and revision of records in the Saharanpur and Muzaffarnagar districts.

Case work.

21. All pending cases of every kind and all newly instituted cases in Gorakhpur, Basti and Bulandshahr, with the exception of a few cases in Basti, were disposed of. Case work was heavy in Muzaffarnagar, the total number of cases there being 15,711, of which more than half were disposed of and 7,069 remained pending. A considerable number of the record cases have since been decided by three Assistant Record Officers. In Saharanpur the total number was 14,598, of which nearly half were disposed of. The balance of 7,929 cases consisted chiefly of enhancement, determination and abatement of rents cases, the number of record cases pending being only 585. In both Muzaffarnagar and Saharanpur the work was well in hand.

Cost of settlement operations.

22. The expenditure during the year in the five districts under settlement amounted to Rs. 3·50 lakhs as against Rs. 4·86 lakhs in the previous year.

13—Land records.

Establishment.

23. The question of improving the pay of the kanungo staff which had to be postponed in 1915 on account of financial considerations was examined during the year and a scheme for grading the supervisor and sadr kanungos on improved scales of pay was formulated and submitted to Government. The addition of a permanent post of an assistant registrar kanungo to the Sadr tahsil in the Cawnpore district was sanctioned by the Board of Revenue.

Patwaris.

24. Two patwaris were promoted as permanent registrar kanungos, six were appointed permanent assistant registrar kanungos, while 35 others officiated as such. Six patwaris got permanent and 19 officiating promotions as partition amins. One was appointed a paid apprentice in Naini Tal and 69 officiated as supervisor kanungos in different districts. Two acted as ahlmads, one as a copyist, one as a kurk amin, one as an assistant teacher in a patwari school, and one as a hay muharrir. Three patwaris were exempted from the educational test, four from the age limit and seven from both. The percentage of patwaris holding the school certificate fell from 96 to 95·4, while that of unpassed men rose from 3 to 3·9. There was a diminution in the number of resident and consequent increase in that

of non-resident patwaris. The fluctuations are generally ascribed to the prevalence of influenza.

Kanungos.

25. One kanungo inspector was selected by the Board of Revenue as an approved candidate for tahsildarship and for some months officiated as a tahsildar. A sadr kanungo who is a selected candidate for naib-tahsildarship has been appointed to officiate in that post. Six supervisor kanungos were promoted as permanent and four as sub. *pro tem.* sadr kanungos, and five officiated in temporary vacancies. Four supervisors were appointed as permanent naib-tahsildars, while 38 officiated as such. Six diplomate supervisors were selected as approved candidates for naib-tshsildarship on the recommendations of their District Officers and one was, as usual, selected on direct recommendation of the Director. Eight supervisors acted as takavi naib-tahsildars and six as circle officers of famine relief works. Two were appointed as assistant managers of Court of Wards estates and one as a sarbarahkar.

Revision of circles.

26. The proposals relating to the re-allocation of patwaris' circles in the six recently settled tahsils of the Allahabad district have been submitted for sanction. The scheme for the re-allocation of the patwaris' circles in the Gorakhpur district framed in the Settlement office is being forwarded to the local authorities for detailed examination of the proposals. Similar proposals received for the Basti district were returned to the District Officer for resubmission in the prescribed form.

Testing of papers.

27. For the province as a whole the prescribed standards of test by supervisors of all the records were somewhat exceeded. It has been suggested that while kanungos' inspections showed the patwaris' work to be poor, the inspection by superior officers revealed the same results in regard to the work of the kanungos themselves. A tendency to sacrifice quality to quantity is also noticed. The volume of testing done by the officers of the headquarters staff was on the whole larger than that of last year, except in the case of maps. The tendency to devote too much time to the work of the patwari at the expense of that of the supervisor still prevails, but in a less aggravated form. Some improvement in regard to the percentages of error discovered is also noticeable. The orders of the Board of Revenue drawing attention to the defective quality of the superior officers testing work and fixing standards of 'test' and 're-test' were issued in the month of March when the touring season had advanced too far for them to be fully complied with in the year under report.

Maps, records and boundary marks.

28. The condition of maps is reported to be generally fair and necessary steps for their correction were taken. Action for the maintenance of boundary marks is reported to have been taken where necessary and they are said to be in good condition generally. In the fixing of stones in the Basti district delay was caused by shortage of wagons. Good progress is reported to have been made towards finishing the work connected with the experimental scheme of fixing boundary marks in the alluvial areas of the Ballia district. Tahsil registers were properly maintained and are generally reported to be accurate and up to date. Complaints have been received from some Collectors that notes in pargana books were rare and inadequate.

Concealments of rents.

29. Six districts reported cases of concealment of rents and in another district it is suspected. Detection of concealment is peculiarly difficult in some districts owing to the inability or unwillingness of tenants to state the facts.

14—Waste lands.

30. There is nothing of importance to record.

15—Government estates.

(For details as regards minor estates and Dudhi, see the annual report on the revenue administration by the Board of Revenue for the year ending the 30th September, 1919, and for the Government estates in the Kumaun division, see the separate reports for the year ending the 31st March, 1920.)

Minor estates.

31. Five new properties were acquired and 34 properties passed out of the possession of Government, the number of properties under the management of the Board being thus reduced during the year from 543 to 514. More than two-thirds of these properties lie in Bundelkhand and Oudh. The current demand fell from Rs. 4,04,857 to Rs. 3.93,278. the decrease being chiefly due to the transfer of four villages to nazul in the Lucknow district and a fall in the demand for lac in Dudhi. The collections were only 88 per cent. as compared with 95 per cent. in the previous year, the decrease being due to unfavourable agricultural conditions. Rupees 29,501 out of the outstanding balance of Rs. 49,817 were remitted, mostly in Agra, Dudhi, Bundelkhand and Hardoi. For the recoverable arrears Agra, Allahabad, Ghazipur, Lucknow, Rae Bareli and Kheri are mainly responsible.

Dudhi

32. The income of the Dudhi estate decreased by Rs. 3,653 which was chiefly due to a large fall in the receipts from lac owing to damage by frost. Both the *rabi* and the *kharif* were very poor and the remission of Rs. 4,037 was found necessary. The demand for the year was thus reduced to Rs. 38,169 which was realized in full. All buildings and roads were maintained in good order and a number of improvements to bandhs and reservoirs were effected or commenced. The irrigated area was considerably increased from 484 acres in the previous year to 1,500.

Tarai and Bhabar estates.

33. The monsoon of 1919 was favourable and well distributed and an excellent *kharif* crop was harvested everywhere except in two parganas. Winter rains were short and the demand for canal water exceeded the supply. The yield of the irrigated tracts, however, was distinctly good and rice was a bumper crop and fetched high prices. On the whole the tenantry had a good year.

Excluding the sum of Rs. 67,060 paid on account of fixed land revenue, the total expenditure of the year was Rs. 4,36,861 as against Rs. 4,34,345 in 1918-19. An increase of Rs. 17,156 under Miscellaneous Public Improvements is entirely due to walling of certain areas. Gross receipts increased to Rs. 8,46,915, which is Rs. 54,105 above the previous year's revenue. All heads except rents of land share in the improvement. Forests alone accounted for an increase of Rs. 31,197, which is chiefly due to the high prices prevailing for timber.

The estates escaped any general epidemic, though influenza wrought havoc among the Buxas. Malaria as, usual, caused the majority of deaths. Births rose from 3,844 to 4,708 and deaths fell from 12,736 to 7,887. The proportion of births to deaths is thus still far from satisfactory, but it is difficult to draw any very definite conclusions from the statistics because of the migratory nature of the population of the Bhabar.

The Tarai still presents in many respects a difficult problem and a special committee has been appointed to consider its future management.

Garhwal-Bhabar estates.

34. The year 1918-19 was a very adverse one for the estates and the year under report was also unfavourable, lack of rain during the months of November and December hampering *rabi* sowings and reducing the area under cultivation. Rent collections, however, were thoroughly satisfactory, being as in the previous year cent. per cent. of the demand. The total receipts for the year rose from Rs. 29,402 to Rs. 32,141, while expenditure fell from Rs. 24,276 to Rs. 18,035. In spite of a bad epidemic of cholera in May and June and the re-appearance of influenza in December mortality considerably declined. One of the most encouraging features of the year is the progress of co-operative societies. These societies are rapidly increasing their capital and are doing excellent work in gradually enabling the tenants to free themselves from the clutches of money-lenders.

16—Wards' estates.

(For details see the annual report on the operations of the Court of Wards for the year ending the 30th September, 1919.)

Number of estates under the court.

35. At the beginning of the year 150 estates were under the management of the Court of Wards; seven with a rental of Rs. 2,12,400 were released

during the year, while charge was assumed of five minors' estates with an income of Rs. 9,59,200.

Estates taken over or released.

36. Of the estates released the most important was the Bara estate in Allahabad, which had been under the superintendence of the Court of Wards since 1885. The superintendence of three important estates was assumed, the Baragaon estate, Sitapur, the Payagpur estate, Bahraich, and the Bilehra estate, Bara Banki. The two latter estates had been under the Court of Wards previously.

Financial.

37. The gross receipts amounted to Rs. 121 lakhs. The main items of expenditure were Government revenue, Rs. 34 lakhs, maintenance and education of wards, Rs. 19 lakhs, and payment of debts Rs. 20 lakhs. Management charges accounted for Rs. 9 lakhs and works of improvement, Rs. 5 lakhs. Nearly Rs. 14 lakhs were invested as compared with Rs. 25 lakhs in the previous year.

Rent collections.

38. Collections of the current and arrear demands amounted to Rs. 87·19 and Rs. 1·30 lakhs respectively. The percentage of collections on the current demand was 95·3 as compared with 95·8 the year before. The year was a trying one; the monsoon failed; the *rabi* area was small and the people were weakened by the influenza epidemic. On the other hand prices ranged so high that wherever the crop outturn was sufficiently large to leave a margin over and above the actual necessities of the tenants, rents were collected with remarkable ease. In most divisions, however, some suspensions or remissions were found necessary. Collections were best in the Lucknow division, but the Benares, Gorakhpur and Fyzabad divisions did almost as well. Allahabad showed the worst percentage but this was due to the release of the Bara estate.

Land revenue.

39. A sum of Rs. 34·33 lakhs was paid on account of land revenue, rates and cesses, a charge of 37 per cent. on the actual rental demand and 39 per cent. on the actual rental collections. Remissions and suspensions of land revenue aggregating Rs. 2·06 lakhs were granted by Government. Of the actual demand the whole was paid except Rs. 885.

Cost of management.

40. The total cost of management was approximately Rs. 9·17 lakhs as compared with Rs. 9·06 in the previous year. The increase is mainly due to the assumption of charge of two big estates in the Fyzabad division and also to the payment of war allowances to the establishments.

Repayment of debts.

41. The debts due from the estates increased from Rs. 132·95 to Rs. 136·62 lakhs. Of the increase, Rs. 3·21 lakhs is accounted for by the assumption of charge of three large estates. Of the Rs. 13·43 lakhs borrowed during the year, the Oel estate invested Rs. 10·65 lakhs in the purchase of villages, Rs. 1·68 lakhs were devoted by some indebted estates to the liquidation of old debts, while the rest was utilized for advances of takavi, payment for ceremonial expenditure, and other current expenses. The actual sum paid in liquidation of debts was Rs. 20,39,073 or Rs. 874,298 less than the amount paid in the previous year. It is becoming more and more difficult to find money to finance indebted estates.

Improvements.

42. The amount expended on improvements fell from Rs. 6 to 5 lakhs. Drought necessitated economy and expenditure on works was naturally reduced. Little progress could be made with the opening of new seed or demonstration farms, although those already in existence continued to do excellent work. The tube wells constructed in Sitapur have proved a success and with the return of better financial conditions it may be hoped that the number of these wells will increase. The difficult question of the consolidation of holdings continues to be the subject of experiment, but so far the only progress reported is from Jalaun and Partabgarh. A supervisor for well-boring operations has been appointed and is at present undergoing a course of training. A proposal to employ one or two competent agricultural engineers to supervise improvements is under consideration.

Sanitation and education.

43. The expenditure on sanitation and medical aid fell from Rs. 37,385 to Rs. 31,127. The decrease is accounted for in the main by the fact that only Rs. 1,292 were spent on the extension and improvement of dispensary buildings as compared with Rs. 6,537 last year. Six estates maintained their own dispensaries which did particularly useful work in the influenza epidemic; while the great majority of estates made some effort to supply

quinine and other remedies to their tenants. Rs. 11,007 were spent on improving village sanitation as compared with Rs. 9,453 last year. But for the scarcity the expenditure would have been a good deal higher as the allotment for village sanitation was the first direction in which economy was effected.

There was a slight increase in the total expenditure on education from Rs. 60,510 to Rs. 62,059, due to the fact that one estate was able to spend a large sum on the construction of a school building. Rs. 23,400 were spent on prizes, scholarships, and subscriptions from which the tenants derive but little benefit. Of the balance, Rs. 20,400 were expended on 91 schools maintained entirely by the estates, while Rs. 11,400 were paid to district boards as contribution towards the up-keep of schools in which the estates were interested.

Agricultural banks.

44. The encouragement of the co-operative movement among the tenants of estates has been engaging the attention of the Board of Revenue who have issued instructions to managers and assistant managers with a view to obtaining the more active assistance both of themselves and of their staff. It has been held illegal for the Court of Wards to invest estate money in co-operative banks, but advances to tenants will be made, where possible, through the agency of the primary societies. Sanction has been accorded to the employment of organizers by large solvent estates and the selection of the estates for the introduction of this experiment is at present under consideration.

Litigation.

45. District Officers and special managers continued to maintain the policy of reducing rent and revenue litigation to the minimum compatible with efficient administration. The Court of Wards was engaged during the year as plaintiff or defendant in 18 suits exceeding Rs. 10,000 in value. Of these only six were decided during the year but all of them in its favour. The Court of Wards also appeared as appellant or respondent in 24 appeals; three appeals were decided entirely and one mostly in its favour and one was partly lost: one appeal abated and 18 remained pending at the close of the year.

Accounts.

46. The accounts of 103 estates were audited during the year. In the majority of districts accounts are satisfactory and some districts show a distinct improvement since the last audit. On the other hand, there are still several districts in which serious irregularities occurred. Embezzlements or suspected embezzlements were reported from two districts, both of which were facilitated by neglect of an audit. There were also two cases of theft, but neither can be attributed to neglect of the rules by the managers of the estates.

General.

47. The most important event of the year was a survey of the condition of all zamindars of the province paying more than Rs. 5,000 land revenue which the Board carried out under the orders of Government. The enquiry dealt with 96 estates and has yielded valuable results. It has elicited much interesting information regarding the financial position of landowners in the province and by focussing attention on mismanagement it has made careless or oppressive landlords conscious of the dangers of continued mismanagement. The result of the investigation shows that 61 per cent. of the large estates of the province are free from debt, 15 per cent are not seriously in debt, 15 per cent. are seriously in debt and 9 per cent. are under the Court of Wards.

The heirs and relations of men on service continued to receive the concessions granted in the previous year and the services of 1,002 discharged soldiers were recognized by remission of rent amounting to Rs. 4,736 and the grant of 7,068 bighas of land at a reduced rental.

A great increase in the cost of management has to be faced and it has been decided that estates must pay for the services of officers engaged in the administration of the Court of Wards in proportion to the time that they devote to this branch of their duties and the rates levied under Act X have accordingly been raised since the close of the year. Increase of pay both of the clerks and of special managers is also urgent. Proposals were made in the course of the year to bring the Board of Revenue more into touch with

the district administration by freeing the Joint Secretary from part of his work and thus enabling him to tour and discuss local problems directly with the officers concerned. An Assistant Secretary has been appointed with this object in view since the close of the year.

17—Revenue and rent-paying classes.

(For details see the annual report on the revenue administration by the Board of revenue for the year ending the 30th September, 1919.)

Tenancy litigation, Agra.

48. The total of new institutions was 419,878 as compared with 371,348, in the previous year. The year's volume of new litigation, therefore, while still below the high level which followed the scarcity of 1913-14, was heavier by 48,530 than in the previous year. Of the causes given last year for the decrease some continued in operation, viz., the profit to cultivators from high prices, the receipt of large money remittances from villagers who enlisted, and the postponement of cases under the Indian Soldiers' Litigation Act, 1918. But otherwise the circumstances of the year now under report were widely different. Agricultural prosperity gave way to crop failure and distress, and the termination of the war made landholders less inclined to show leniency to soldier tenants by withholding the filing of cases.

Suits for arrears of rent and ejectment for arrears.

49. Arrears of rent suits increased from 180,338 to 181,225. In most of the drought affected tracts the number decreased, but there was a rise in all the eastern districts except Benares. This is attributed to high prices, returning prosperity, and the fear that suits, if further delayed, would be time-barred. Applications for ejectment for decreed arrears numbered 46,079 as compared with 48,552, a decrease of 2,473. The decline was fairly general and was most marked in the Agra and Rohilkhand divisions. In Gorakhpur, however, there was an increase of 914, and a few other scattered districts also showed increases. The cases disposed of numbered 45,440 against 48,283 in 1917-18, but ejectment was ordered in 9,857 as against 9,836 last year. The area from which occupancy and non-occupancy tenants were ejected totalled 38,771 acres as compared with 43,703 in the previous year.

Enhancement of rent.

50. Suits for enhancement of rent increased from 13,159 to 18,533. The increase was general all over the provinces except in the Allahabad and Benares districts. The decline in the former case is partly attributed to drought and partly to the increase which had occurred the year before, while in the case of Benares it is explained by the fact that in 1917-18 there had been for special reasons an abnormal rise.

Relinquishments.

51. Relinquishments, which had dropped the previous year to the low figure of 9,670, rose to 12,342. Crop failure was undoubtedly a contributing cause of this large number though it is noteworthy that the tracts most affected by drought do not show the highest figures. In three districts, namely Gorakhpur, Basti and Bulandshahr, the increase is attributed to the adjustment of relations between zamindar and tenants arising out of the revision of records.

Ejectments other than for arrears.

52. Ejectment institutions which had fallen by 28,252 to 97,881 in 1917-18 rose in the year of report by no less than 40,781 to 138,662—a figure which is easily a record since the present Tenancy Act came into force. Excluding Naini Tal there is not a single district which did not share in the increase. The sharpest proportional rise is reported from Banda where institutions numbered 1,655 against 651 in the previous year; while in the large district of Gorakhpur they almost doubled, rising from 9,647 to 19,127. In the Gorakhpur and Meerut divisions a contributing factor was undoubtedly the revision of records in connection with settlement operations, because these enquiries bring disputes to a head and focus the attention of both landholders and tenants upon their mutual relations and the necessity of asserting their respective rights. But the general reasons for the increase were that war and drought had driven up prices, that prospects were favourable at the end of the year, and that proprietors were determined to appropriate their full share of the growing profits of agriculture. It is well known that the vast majority of these cases are filed, not to get rid of

undesirable tenants, but in order to force up rents, to exact nazrana on re-admission to holdings, and to keep control over tenants and their future rents by breaking the continuity of tenure and so preventing the accrual of occupancy rights. The total number of ejectment suits for disposal, including the pending balance, was 225,046, of which only 106,401 were disposed of as compared with 119,329 in 1917-18 so that the pending balance rose again from 86,384 to 118,645. The rise is accounted for by the heavy volume of institutions and by the pre-occupation of Sub-Divisional Officers with special work arising out of the war, the scarcity and the economic situation. Ejectment was ordered in 83,020 suits covering 215,522 acres as compared with 91,860 suits and 245,080 acres in the year before.

Protected area.

53. Excluding Naini Tal the total area held by tenants recorded as holding occupancy rights rose again from 9,881,727 to 10,178,843 acres; but the increase occurred only in two divisions, Gorakhpur and Meerut. The reason is that revision of records in connection with settlement operations automatically converts into occupancy land which has hitherto been recorded without rights but with over 12 years' tenure; the latter area, therefore, correspondingly declined in those two divisions. In all the other divisions the case is reversed; that is to say, old occupancy right declined through failure of heirs or ejectment, while 12 years' area increased. The whole area protected either by occupancy right or by continuous tenure for 12 years continued to rise.

Rent litigation in Oudh.

54. Suits and applications under the Oudh Rent Act, exclusive of applications to eject, continued to fall in number and were only 36,687 against 39,297 in 1917-18. Most of the decline was in Unao and Hardoi and in the latter district total institutions dropped from 5,653 to 3,221. Throughout Oudh suits for arrears of rent decreased from 22,672 to 20,818, and those to contest enhancement or ejectment from 5,891 to 3,239; while relinquishments, under the influence of unfavourable seasons, rose from 4,010 to 4,585. Notices for ejectment dropped heavily from 33,069 to 24,114, the decrease being shared by all districts except Bahraich and Partabgarh. The general decrease in the volume of litigation is attributed partly to drought and partly to the absence of soldier tenants.

Rent court work.

55. The year opened with a pending file of 124,428 suits and applications in Agra to which were added 419,878 new institutions, the total for disposal in the year of report being 544,306 as against 523,642 in the previous year. But though the work to be done was heavier, the cases actually disposed of were fewer, namely 53,062 with contest and 277,374 without contest compared with 62,159 and 289,051 respectively in the year before.

In Oudh the total of all cases for disposal was 85,033 as compared with 99,901 last year of which 82,974 were disposed of leaving a balance of 2,059 as compared with a balance of 2,283 at the end of 1917-18. Appeals to Collectors under the Agra Tenancy Act fell from 4,605 to 4,093. Under the Oudh Rent Act also appeals to Deputy Commissioners were only 942 against 1,101 in the year before. In Kumaun the number rose from 26 to 51. Appeals to Commissioners numbered 6,337 as compared with 7,984. Appeals to Judges fell from 1,872 to 1,699.

In 1917-18 30 new appointments were made to the post of honorary assistant collectors and in 1918-19 as many as 63, mostly towards the end of the year which closed with 114 honorary assistant collectors on the list. The number of those who actually worked during the year was 102 as compared with 35 in 1917-18 and they relieved the paid staff of 30,144 cases or double the number in the previous year.

Mutation in revenue papers.

56. Changes of all kinds in proprietary rights recorded during the year totalled 340,428 as compared with 220,344 in 1917-18 showing a large rise of 120,084 which is almost entirely due to the heavy mortality caused by influenza in the winter. The increase was chiefly in ordinary succession cases and also in private sales of revenue paying lands. Mutations of all other kinds show a decrease. The recorded successions rose from 120,315 to 238,346. Sales of revenue paying lands by order of courts fell from 3,490 to 3,092 and of revenue-free lands from 205 to 93. The total mutations owing to orders of courts were 7,506 as compared with 9,095.

57. The partition file again decreased slightly, new institutions numbering 3,312 against 3,395 and the total for disposal 8,861 against 8,970. The decline was shared by most districts and divisions except the Fyzabad division and the districts of Almora, Fatehpur, Bulandshahr, Gorakhpur and Basti. The number of cases decided and of partitions actually carried out did not differ greatly from the figures of the previous year, and it is satisfactory that disposals again exceeded new institutions, and that the pending balance declined. The question of compactness received general attention, and excessive fragmentation was discouraged, but efforts in this direction met with only partial success. No effective remedy seems possible without legislation which will empower Collectors to compel the union of mahals or pattis where necessary. Partition cases.

CHAPTER III.—PROTECTION.

18—Legislative authority.

58. There are no changes to be recorded under this head.

19—Course of Legislation.

59. The following Bills were dealt with during the year:—

(1) The United Provinces Town Improvement Bill, 1919.
(2) The Agra Pre-emption Bill, 1918.
(3) The United Provinces Land Revenue and Agra Tenancy (Amendment) Bill, 1919.
(4) The United Provinces Minor Irrrigation Works Bill, 1919.
(5) The United Provinces Private Irrigation Works Bill, 1919.
(6) The United Provinces Village *Panchayat* Bill, 1920.
(7) The British Indian Association and Canning College Contribution Bill, 1920.

The United Provinces Town Improvement Bill, 1919, was introduced into the Council and referred to a Select Committee on the 2nd June, 1919. The report of the Select Committee was presented on the 4th August, 1919. The Bill was taken into consideration and passed into Law on the 22nd September, 1919. It is now Act VIII of 1919.

The Agra Pre-emption Bill, 1918, was introduced into the Council on the 18th December, 1919. It was referred to a Select Committee on the 27th January, 1920. The report of the Select Committee was presented on the 12th August, 1920. The Bill was withdrawn on the 18th September, 1920.

The United Provinces Land Revenue and Agra Tenancy (Amendment) Bill, 1919, was introduced into the Council on the 18th December, 1919. It was referred to a Select Committee on the 27th January, 1920.

The United Provinces Minor Irrigation Works Bill, 1919, was introduced into the Council on the 18th December, 1919. It was referred to a Select Committee on the 27th January, 1920.

The United Provinces Private Irrigation Works Bill, 1919, was introduced into the Council on the 18th December, 1919. It was referred to a Select Committee on the 27th January, 1920.

The United Provinces Village *Panchayat* Bill, 1920, was introduced into the Council and referred to a Select Committee on the 8th March, 1920.

The British Indian Association and Canning College Contribution Bill, was introduced into the Council on the 8th March, 1920.

20—Police.

(For details see the annual report on the administration of the Police department for the year ending 31st December, 1919, and the tables under the head "Police" in Part VI—Statistics of British India.)

60. For the purposes of examining the statistics of crime the year may be divided into two almost equal parts. The first, which lasted until the Crime statistics.

middle of July, was affected by the adverse agricultural conditions caused by the failure of the 1918 monsoon and the lateness of the winter rains, which, together with the influenza epidemic, resulted in a very small *rabi* area being sown; the second part began with the establishment of the monsoon all over the province in the second week of July, which restored general confidence, although it had little effect on prices. For the large increase in serious crime in the previous year it was suggested in last year's report that the economic was the preponderating cause, and the statistics of 1919 go to support this view, for, as soon as the monsoon was fully established, a marked decrease in crime at once set in.

Taking the year as a whole, however, the conditions in their effect on crime statistics were more unfavourable than those of the previous year and it is, therefore, not surprising to find an increase in the total number of cognizable offences. These, including those reported to Magistrates, rose from 162,283 to 175,552, the largest increase occurring in offences against property and miscellaneous offences. In 1918 the failure of the monsoon was not apparent till three quarters of the year had elapsed. In 1919 its effect operated from the commencement of the year and the position was aggravated by the comparative failure of the winter rains and a poor *rabi*, while although a satisfactory monsoon considerably eased the situation, the continuance of high prices even after the autumn harvest was gathered prevented the relief from being as great as it would have been otherwise.

From the point of view of those responsible for the administration of the force the year was little less difficult than 1918. Apart from the increase in crime the question of the pay and conditions of service of the force had not been settled; resignations continued to pour in though at a lesser rate, and dissatisfaction was not unnaturally rife. It may be noted here that the proposals of the Armed Police Committee and Civil Police Committee for the betterment of the conditions of service in the subordinate ranks will shortly be brought into effect and action has been taken to give advance and retrospective effect to the proposals for increased pay.

Investigations.

61. The percentage of convictions to cases investigated rose from 37·2 to 40·45. This is extremely satisfactory in view of the fact that the total number of such investigations increased from 121,574 to 135,909. The percentage of cases convicted, to reports, and to cases tried out also continued to improve. Investigation was refused in 18·24 per cent. of the crimes reported as compared with 20·01 per cent. in 1918. Since 1914 there has been a distinct rise in the proportion of convictions to reported cases.

Coin, stamps, and notes.

62. The number of true cases relating to coin, stamps, and notes increased from 67 to 68. Fifty six cases came before the courts and convictions numbered 41.

Murder.

63. There were 824 murders during the year, an advance of six on the total of 1918, which had hitherto been the highest figure on record. Of this year's total 109 murders were committed by dacoits, as compared with 155 in 1918. In 75 other cases, including 34 cases in which children were murdered for their ornaments, the motive is said to have been robbery. In two cases of murder, connected with superstitious practices, the prosecution broke down through local sympathy with the guilty parties. Including pending cases 423 cases involving 1,370 persons came before the courts and resulted in the conviction of 297 cases and 780 persons. There were 15 cases of women convicted of the murder of their infant children, in all of which the sentence was reviewed by the courts or by the Local Government. No very sensational murders occurred.

Poisoning.

64. The number of poisoning cases for disposal again rose from 79 to 109. Of the 46 cases which came before the courts 32 resulted in conviction and five in acquittal, the other nine being undecided at the close of the year. These results compare favourably with those of former years. The increase in the total number was due chiefly to a large increase in the number of cases reported to Magistrates, from 9 to 23. An increase from 10 to 17 also occurred in the Railway Police jurisdiction.

Dacoities.

65. The figures for dacoity were again high, though they show a decrease from 1,954 to 1,502. The decrease began sharply with the setting

in of the monsoon and continued to the end of the year. A satisfactory feature is the fall in the number of cases in which fire arms were carried by dacoits.

There was again a large number of cases in which villagers offered resistance, often successful, to dacoits, and also many instances of fine work on the part of the police. Dacoity was especially rife in the Jhansi district which borders on Native State territory. Here the dacoities were of an unusual and particularly daring nature, the work of large gangs of 50 or 60 men under bold and enterprising leaders. The co-operation of the Native State police is specially necessary in this district and in 1919 very valuable assistance was given by them. In one case organized measures taken by the Gwalior Durbar under the personal supervision of His Highness the Maharaja Scindia himself resulted in the arrest and conviction of no less than 105 persons.

The number of cases tried during the year including those pending at the close of 1918, was 688, of which 556 ended in conviction. The experience of the year has shown once more that if the pest of dacoity is to be kept within limits incessant activity must be shown in preventive measures, and encouragement given to self-defence on the part of the villagers; a high degree of co-operation must prevail between districts, and between Native States and British territory and the courts must realise in passing sentence that a professional dacoit, in the words of the Inspector-General "seldom if ever reforms but becomes more daring with each success, corrupts youth, and leads astray weak-minded men of mature age."

Robbery, burglary, and theft.

66. The cases of robbery reported during the year fell from 999 to 917. Convictions, however, rose from 243 to 281, giving a higher percentage to reports than that of any other year on record. On the other hand the percentage of cases convicted to cases disposed of fell from 86 to 83 and that of persons convicted to persons tried out from 59 to 55. The largest number of robberies occurred in Gorakhpur, Bulandshahr, Shahjahanpur, Rae Bareli, Jhansi, and Aligarh. Increases occurred chiefly in Gorakhpur, Bareilly, Allahabad, and Rae Bareli. Decreases were largest in Saharanpur, Agra, Sitapur, and Bijnor.

The number of burglaries reported increased by 5,725 from 65,437 to 71,162. This total was, however, exceeded both in 1914 and 1915. The percentage of cases convicted to cases reported was nine as compared with seven in the previous year. The percentages of cases convicted to cases disposed of and of persons convicted to tried out also shows an improvement. A large proportion of burglaries are attributed to the indifferent manner in which most towns are lighted.

The number of theft cases for disposal rose from 35,791 to 39,745. The increase is attributed entirely to economic conditions and the total is by no means abnormal. During the five years ending with 1914 cases for disposal averaged nearly 41,000 and were never less, in any one year, than 39,000. Out of 10,562 cases tried 9,631 ended in conviction, the corresponding figures for 1918 being 7,137 and 5,575. All but seven districts showed an increase in the number of cases, the only districts in which thefts decreased to an appreciable extent being Agra and Ballia. The increase was relatively largest in Fyzabad, Sitapur, Kheri, Farrukhabad, Banda, Jaunpur, Benares, and Rae Bareli.

Cattle theft.

67. There was a large rise in the number of cases of cattle theft from 4,495 to 6,424. Of the 2,053 cases tried to a conclusion, convictions resulted in 1848 and the percentage of convictions to reports rose from 23 to 29. In 1918, 1,204 cases were tried and 1,050 convicted. All but ten districts show an increase, but the increase was greatest in Shahjahanpur, Kheri, Hardoi, Budaun, Muzaffarnagar, and Sitapur and the fact that all these districts with the exception of Muzaffarnagar adjoin one another raises the suspicion that some particular gang or gangs may have been at work in that locality. It is also thought that the increase is due to Muhammadans and Hindus of low caste having been forced to adopt a meat diet owing to the high price of grain. In many districts, however, the general rise is ascribed to the fact that owing to fodder being scarce and expensive the poorer classes turned out their cattle to find for themselves and this made theft comparatively easy.

Criminal tribes.

68. The year opened with a registered population of 25,558 and closed with a registered population of 27,290. Two new tribes and three new mixed gangs were proclaimed; while proclamation was cancelled in the case of one tribe. Of the 27,290 registered persons, 2,383 have been placed in settlements or schools and there are also 1,122 unregistered persons in settlements or schools. The general consensus of opinion is that the operations taken under the Criminal Tribes Act have checked criminal activity to a considerable extent, but have effected little in the direction of reformation. It may be noted here that a serious increase of dacoities took place in the submontane area from the Sarda to the Jumna which illustrates the unfavourable effects which the location of criminal tribes settlement exercises in the surrounding areas. The question of increasing the strength of the police at those police stations where there are large numbers of criminal tribesmen is under the consideration of the Civil Police Committee. Progress was made during the year in arranging for the restriction of movements of those tribes which have shown marked criminal activity; the district area has been taken as the area of restriction and since the close of 1919, restriction of movements has been enforced in the case of Gipsies, Daleras, and Barwars and will be enforced in the case of several other tribes. No new settlements or schools were opened during the year, the numbers being eight and three respectively, all under the management of Salvation Army Officers. Since the end of the year, the Gorakhpur School has been closed and the children distributed amongst the other two. The earnings of the settlers have increased mainly owing to the closing down of unprofitable settlement industries and to the extended employment of settlers on work outside the settlement, where possible.

Surveillance.

69. The history-sheets of 26,241 persons were maintained at the commencement of the year. No less than 10,813 were added during the year, this large total being ascribed chiefly to the injudicious manner in which history-sheets were closed in many districts when the new rules were introduced. The number on the surveillance register dropped from 9,014 to 7,481. The new system of surveillance is not yet in full working order and opinions are still divided on its merits, though the rules as they stand come in for more hostile than favourable criticism. It seems probable that some modification of them will ultimately be required.

Finger Print Bureau.

70. Slips received for record at the Finger Print Bureau rose from 15,323 to 17,907. The number of absconders identified through the agency of the bureau rose from 307 to 333, but all excepting five of these were persons 'wanted' under the Criminal Tribes Act. Experts gave oral evidence in 256 cases and 505 written opinions were also furnished.

Absconded offenders.

71. The year opened with 3,127 names on the register; 1,317 were added and 1,291 were struck off, leaving a closing balance of 3,153.

Co-operation with Indian States.

72. Relations with neighbouring States were exceptionally cordial. The Bareilly and Budaun districts testify to the assistance they received from the Rampur State authorities and all districts bordering with Nepal bear witness to the assistance rendered by its officials. The Dholpur State authorities co-operated very successfully with the Agra police in dealing with gangs of dacoits. The assistance received from the Gwalior Durbar in dealing with the gangs of dacoits on the Gwalior-Jhansi border has been already referred to.

Village headmen and chaukidars.

73. The number of village headmen decreased from 100,367 to 100,317; while the number of cases reported by them increased from 2,479 to 3,320. It is believed, however, that they are mainly responsible for the reporting of a far larger number of cases than the returns give them credit for. In many dacoity cases they did good work and were duly rewarded. It has been pointed out that the removal of all restrictions on the possession of swords annuls the only special privilege which the post of mukhiya carried and proposals are under consideration for the bestowal of some other privilege to replace it.

As regards chaukidars there is little new to be said. Most officers agree that they are of value but that their value is reduced by the low pay they receive and the fact that most of them belong to the lowest

class of village communities and many to criminal tribes. There is little doubt that the position is not so much sought after as it once was and the question of how conditions of service can best be improved has been receiving attention at the hands of the Civil Police Committee.

Strength and cost of the police.

74. The strength of the regular police increased by one head constable and decreased by 10 temporary deputy superintendents, four temporary inspectors, three sub-inspectors, and 23 constables. The total cost of the force excluding Railway Police, rose from Rs. 97·37 to Rs. 99·26 lakhs, this rise being chiefly due to the revision of pay of imperial police officers. Resignations fell from 2,332 to 1,718 and the number of desertions from 215 to 159. Even so the figure of resignations is a very high one considering the fact that a large number of sepoys were demobilised during the year and were in search of employment. It is recognised, however, that the rates of pay for head constables and constables hitherto in force are not a living wage in view of the all-round rise in the cost of living. Action has now been taken to improve their position in this respect.

Punishments.

75. Twenty-four officers and 314 men were dismissed and 69 officers and 783 men were otherwise punished. These figures show an increase in punishments as a whole but the return for 1918 was a remarkably low one.

Armed and Mounted force.

76. Resignations in the Armed police fell from 692 to 409 and this is, no doubt, mainly due to the special allowance which was sanctioned in the latter part of 1918, which has done much to make service in this branch less unpopular. The demobilization of the Police Battalions brought back to the Armed police a large number of carefully trained officers and men and the branch as a whole has probably never been so efficient before. The report of the Armed Police Committee regarding the future conditions of service in this branch is now under the consideration of the Local Government.

There was no change in the sanctioned strength and disposition of the Mounted police, but owing to dearth of suitable candidates, this branch remained 5 per cent. below strength throughout the year. Owing to the high prices of grain and grass the temporary extra allowance for the upkeep of remounts had to be increased very considerably during the first half of 1919 and varied from Rs. 3-4-0 to Rs. 8-4-0 in the different parts of the province. Since October, 1919, it has been found possible gradually to reduce it, but so long as present prices continue, there is little hope of the permanent allowance of Rs. 17 ever proving sufficient.

Railway police.

77. Crime on railways increased by about four per cent. mainly in thefts. There was a substantial rise in convictions. Two cases of murder and 19 cases of dacoity were reported. Of the dacoities, 13 were attacks on railway stations; the other dacoities included a technical case, two attacks on passengers in trains, one of which was probably untrue, and an attempt to plunder a station—which was also believed to be a false report. The results of the enquiries and of cases which were taken to court were unsatisfactory with one exception. The last was the capture of an armed gang at the Moradabad railway station which resulted in the conviction of 26 dacoits. There was a marked decrease in cases of robbery and of 15 reported five ended in conviction. Five of these robberies were the work of sepoys. Cases of poisoning numbered 18 most of which appear to have been the work of professional poisoners. Some excellent work was done in this conection by the Railway Police and several professional poisoners were arrested and convicted. Thefts increased from 7,703 to 7,940 and convictions from 639 to 965. Thefts from running goods trains were once again numerous and comparatively few of those cases appear to have been worked out. The need for improvement in the lighting arrangements of the large railway yards and for an increase in the strength of the force is as great as ever.

Railway accidents.

78. The most serious collision of the year occurred near Firozabad on the East Indian Railway and was accompanied by very serious loss of life owing to the six leading carriages taking fire. The accident was due to gross carelessness on the part of some of the station staff, and the assistant-station-master and a pointsman were prosecuted and convicted.

Rural police.

79. There was an increase in the number of chaukidars rewarded from 12,867 to 13,509 and in the amount distributed in rewards from Rs. 31,558 to Rs. 36,588. Rewards were freely given in many districts: in others the number of chaukidars rewarded was probably too few.

Training Schools.

80. The Police Training School remained closed up to the end of 1919, but re-opened on the first of January, 1920 and is once again in full working order.

Criminal Investigation Department.

81. Enquiries undertaken by officers of the criminal branch numbered 71 as compared with 81 in 1918. There has been a progressive decrease for the last five years. Twenty-three cases were still under investigation at the close of the year. Cases investigated included the murder of the Adjutant Jamadar of the 2/26th Panjabis at Bareilly, two poisoning cases both of which ended in conviction, 14 cases of theft and receiving stolen property, six cases of cheating, four of which ended in conviction, and several cases of forgery and fraudulent civil suits. The intelligence bureau of the criminal branch was re-organised during the year and it is hoped that this will result in a marked improvement in its work. The special branch had a very busy year, but it is not possible to give full details of the work done. The most important enquiry made by it was in connection with the Mainpuri Conspiracy case. The work of the newspaper branch was again heavy. The security of two newspapers was forfeited under the Press Act and one newspaper was called on to furnish security.

Buildings.

82. The building programme was once again greatly curtailed owing to scarcity of labour and materials. Provision had been made for the expenditure of Rs. 179,380 on original works, Rs. 140,000 on repairs and improvements, and Rs. 82,000 on minor and petty works, but the actual expenditure under these three heads amounted to only Rs. 83,147, Rs. 119,747, and Rs. 29,145, repectively. New Police Lines at Ballia were completed during the year and three new police stations and three outposts were built. Married quarters for officers and other improvements were also added to a certain number of existing police stations. The necessity for rebuilding police stations and effecting general improvements in the accommodation provided for subordinate police officers is as great as ever. A detailed list has been drawn up of all urgent projects and the estimates of the cost total no less than Rs. 75 lakhs.

21—Criminal Justice.

(*For details see the annual reports on Criminal Justice for the year ending 31st December, 1919, and the tables under the head 'Criminal Justice' in Part VI, Statistics of British India.*)

AGRA.

General.

83. The total number of sessions divisions remained at 18. The constitution of a separate sessions division for Bulandshahr is at last in view and work is being started on the necessary buildings. Temporary additional sessions judges worked for various periods in several districts. The scheme of investing subordinate judges with the powers of assistant sessions judges remained in force and use was made of it as necessity arose.

Number of trials.

84. The total number of offences reported under the Penal Code including those pending from the previous year rose from 100,714 to 111,613 and the number of cases returned as true from 72,924 to 80,855. There was a similar increase in the number of cases brought to trial from 63,767 to 72,854 and in the number of persons who had to stand their trial from 148,154 to 164,381. It has already been noted in the Police Section that the cause of the increase in crime was primarily economic. The rise in offences is chiefly to be found in offences against property; cases of theft, robberies, and dacoities, receiving of stolen property, criminal trespass and breach of trust, cheating and mischief being specially prominent. Offences against the human body, on the other hand, show a general falling off. The number of cases relating to hurt increased, but the number of persons implicated declined. Kidnapping cases and offences relating to

marriage increased considerably. The rise in the number of offences relating to marriage is attributed, in a great measure, to the contracting of other alliances by wives of men who were absent on military service.

The number of reported offences against Special and Local Laws increased from 62,010 to 71,800 and the number of cases tried from 53,475 to 61,359. Convictions rose by 6,410. These figures are the highest of any during the past decade, and the High Court considers that they indicate superior organization and improved supervision in local administration. Increases are most noticeable under the Municipalities, Hackney and Stage Carriages, Police Town and Town Areas, Workmen's Breach of Contract, Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Canals, Cattle Trespass, Criminal Tribes, Gambling, Factories, India Defence, Income Tax, Railways, Stamps and Water-works Acts.

The percentage of persons convicted to persons under trial remained at 43 in magistrates' courts, but fell from 68 to 66 in courts of session. The percentage of cases dismissed under section 203 of the Criminal Procedure Code remained at 20. Some improvement is reported in respect of action taken under section 250 of the Code, though there is still plenty of room for further improvement. The number of persons ordered to pay compensation under this section for making frivolous or vexatious complaints rose from 403 to 457.

Duration of trials.

85. The average duration of cases in all courts again stood at 10 days. It rose from 12 to 16 days in courts of district Magistrates and from 39 to 43 in courts of session. For stipendiary Special Magistrates the average duration was six days as compared with five in the previous year and for stipendiary Magistrates 13, this being also the duration in 1918.

Punishments.

86. The number of persons sentenced to death by sessions courts was 184 as contrasted with 128 in the previous year. In the case of 120 sentences were confirmed by the High Court, 22 persons were released, a similar number obtained modification of sentence, three retrials were ordered and the cases of 17 were still pending at the close of the year. The number of persons sentenced to transportation for life rose from 456 to 745 and of those sentenced to rigorous imprisonment from 18,804 to 24,587. Whippings rose from 2,181 to 3,277,387 of the persons sentenced being juveniles.

Appeals and revision.

87. The number of appellants rose from 17,746 to 21,233 and the number of applicants for revision from 3,375 to 3,551. In 9,216 cases the appeal or application was rejected; in 10,340 the sentence or order was confirmed and in 60 the sentence was enhanced. Proceedings were quashed in 364 cases and 709 were remanded for a fresh trial or further enquiry. The percentage of totally unsuccessful appellants and applicants for revision rose from 74 to 76.

OUDH.

Number of trials.

88. The number of offences reported rose from 52,387 to 61,322 an increase of 17 per cent. Theft cases and cases of criminal trespass contributed nearly two-thirds of the total increase. A fairly large increase also occurred in robberies and dacoity cases and in most classes of offences against property, also in cases of marriage, kidnapping, and rape. Offences affecting the human body taken as a whole fell as in Agra.

Under Special and Local Laws there was an increase in the number of offences reported from 22,418 to 27,881, nearly all districts participating in this increase. The rise occurred chiefly under the same Acts as have already been noted in the case of Agra.

The number of accused under trial rose from 81,168 to 93,510 and the percentage of convictions to the number tried from 37 to 41.

Duration of trials.

89. The average duration of trials was 9·53 days in Magisterial and 48·7 in Sessions courts as compared with 10·81 and 42·2 in 1918.

Punishments.

90. Seventy-four persons were sentenced to capital punishment as against 91 in 1918. Sentences of transportation on the other hand increased

from 164 to 264 and sentences of whipping from 556 to 792. The number of persons sentenced to rigorous imprisonment and fine was 7,850 and 27,104 as against 5,854 and 20,773 in 1918.

Appeals and revisions.

91. The total number of appellants and applicants for revision was 6,020 as against 5,237 in the previous year. One thousand five hundred and ninety-five appeals or applications were rejected; in 3,227 the sentences were up-held and in 26 they were enhanced. In 475 cases the lower court's order was modified and in 1,004 the finding was reversed. Proceedings were quashed in five cases while a new trial or further enquiry was ordered in 168 as compared with 16 and 185 respectively in 1918.

22—Prisons.

(For details see the annual report on the Jail department for the year ending the 31st December, 1919, and the tables under the head 'Jails' in part VI.—Statistics of British India.)

General.

92. The year opened with a total of 30,331 prisoners of all classes. During the year 1,15,235 were admitted and 1,19,793 discharged, there being 25,773 in confinement at the end of the year. The daily average number of prisoners of all classes was 31,206 as compared with 26,184 in the previous year. The rise in the jail population continued steadily from January to June in which month the average number was 33,117. A fall in July and August was due to the release of a large number of prisoners on the occasion of the Peace Celebrations. The number rose again in September and maintained a high level until December, when it fell again owing to the special release for the same cause of another large batch. One thousand and fifty-four civil prisoners were received during the year or 443 less than in 1918. The number in 1918 was 880 less than in 1917 and the decline in both years appears to have been due to the recruitment of debtors for the Military department and to money-lenders being prohibited from bringing suits against them in civil courts while so employed.

Punishments.

93. Twenty-three prisoners were sent up for trial by the criminal courts for serious offences committed in jail as against 16 last year. The number of cases dealt with departmentally decreased from 26,999 to 23,311. There was a large fall in both minor and major punishments. Escapes numbered 18 as in the previous year. The number of floggings increased from 19 to 23.

Expenditure.

94. The total expenditure rose by Rs. 11 lakhs from Rs. 20·41 to Rs. 31·47 lakhs, this being chiefly due to two causes: the rise in the prison population and in the price of food. The total cost per head rose from Rs. 77-15-3 to Rs. 100-13-9.

Employment.

95. The total cash profit earned by the jail factories was Rs. 4,88,787 or Rs. 1,65,818 more than in the previous year. Among the district jails which did best, Cawnpore, Meerut, and Aligarh may be mentioned. The profit in 1918 was smaller than usual owing to special circumstances.

Health.

96. There was a marked improvement in health and the death rate was only 24·4 per mille against 46·0 in 1918. At the beginning of 1919 influenza still prevailed in some jails and cases continued to be reported from time to time up to the end of the year.

Juvenile jail at Bareilly.

97. The number of juvenile convicts admitted to the jails shows an increase, the number being 167 as compared with 157 in the previous year. Of these all non-habituals who were eligible for the juvenile jail at Bareilly were transferred there. The daily average number of juvenile prisoners in this jail was 241 as compared with 240 last year. As has been noted in previous years, additional accommodation is urgently wanted. An estimate amounting to Rs. 2,31,211 has been finally sanctioned by Government and the question of allotting funds is under consideration.

23.—Civil Justice.

(For details see the annual reports on Civil Justice for the year ending 31st December, 1919, and the tables under the head 'Civil Justice' in Part VI.—Statistics of British India.)

AGRA.

Original suits.

98. There was a very large increase of 14,363 suits instituted in the civil courts of the Agra province from 138,005 in 1918 to 152,368. This is less, however, than the number in 1917. Sixty-eight per cent of the increase occurred in munsifs' courts and there were also comparatively large increases in small cause courts and Subordinate Judges' courts. In District Judges' courts there was little change. The great bulk of this increase occurred under the head of suits for money or moveable property, mainly of small value. Suits of most other denominations, however, also contributed in varying proportions to the rise. The rise is attributed to the return of more normal conditions, recovery from epidemics, a more settled economic situation, and the cessation of hostilities. The total number of suits before the courts rose from 167,232 to 182,235 and disposals from 142,546 to 153,170. The pending file rose by 200.

Appeals.

99. There was little change in the number of civil court appeals. Subordinate Judges' cases rose by 425, while District Judges' cases fell by nearly as many. The pending file rose from 3,918 to 4,842.

High court.

100. Appeals before the High Court rose from 5,234 to 5,463 and the pending file from 3,308 to 3,581.

Application for execution of decrees.

101. Applications instituted for execution of decrees rose from 138,556 to 145,433—a natural corollary to the rise in institution of suits. The number of disposals rose by 598 only and the pending file by 5,734. The percentage of fructuous applications throughout the judgeships was 48, the same as in 1918.

Village and honorary munsifs.

102. The total number of village courts was 242, one more than in the previous year and the number actually working fell from 173 to 167. The continued decrease in the number actually working was again due chiefly to the Gorakhpur district, where out of 80 circles there were only 25 active courts. Institutions rose from 10,683 to 13,259 and disposals from 10,569 to 12,844. The pending file rose from 217 to 390. Honorary munsifs decided 5,596 cases as against 5,125 in 1918.

OUDH.

Suits.

103. The total number of suits instituted rose from 64,754 to 67,510, an increase of 4·26 per cent. Suits for money increased in all courts, except those of Subordinate Judges, where an increase in suits for immoveable property was more perceptible than in any other courts. It is probable that the causes of the general increase are the same as those that have been given for the Agra Province. Disposals increased from 67,517 to 68,041 and the pending file increased from 10,648 to 12,539. Notwithstanding the rise in the number of institutions there was a large decline in their value from Rs. 500 lakhs to Rs. 385 lakhs, which is due to the falling-off in the institutions of suits of exceptionally high value.

Appeals.

104. The total number of appeals before the courts was 3,453 as compared with 3,701 last year, of which 2,164 against 2,448 were disposed of. The pending file increased by 36.

Judicial Commissioner's court.

105. The number of regular appeals for disposal in the Judicial Commissioner's court was 1,005 as against 1,169 last year, or a decrease of 164. Disposals rose from 629 to 676 and the pending file decreased from 540 to 329.

Applications for execution of decrees.

106. The number of applications before the courts for the execution of decrees fell from 67,687 to 66,176, of which 57,129 were disposed of, leaving a balance of 9,047 at the end of the year as against 8,098 the year before. The percentage of wholly fructuous applications decreased from 23 to 22 and that of infructuous rose from 58 to 60.

Village and honorary munsifs.

107. Village courts decreased from 92 to 84. Institutions, however, increased from 5,663 to 6,399 and disposals from 5,614 to 6,296. There was

no change in the number of honorary munsifs. They disposed of 4,419 cases as against 5,083 in the previous year.

KUMAUN.

Suits. 108. In Kumaun, the number of civil suits instituted rose from 5,577 to 5,938, there being increases in Naini Tal and Garhwal and a slight decrease in Almora. The increase is practically all in suits for money or moveable property. The value of suits decreased by Rs. 14,794, but this is more than accounted for by a decrease of nearly Rs. 30,000 in the Almora district. The total number of suits for disposal rose from 6,375 to 6,660. The pending file rose from 778 to 935.

Appeals 109. The number of appeals from decrees rose from 307 to 327. Forty-eight were pending at the close of the year including 25 in the Commissioner's court.

Execution of decrees. 110. Applications for execution of decrees fell from 3,529 to 3,383. Of these, 472 against 452 in the previous year remained pending at the close of the year. Complete or partial satisfaction was obtained in 32 per cent of the applications disposed of in Naini Tal, in 39 per cent in Almora and in 53 per cent in Garhwal.

24—Registration.

(For details see the report on Registration for the year ending 31st December, 1919, and the tables under the head 'Registration' in Part VI—Statistics of British India.)

Registration. 111. The total number of all documents registered increased from 257,226 to 344,822. The number beat all previous records, being 34 per cent over the figures of 1918 and 20·4 per cent. over the average number of the preceding triennium. The increase under 'Mortgages' is attributed, in a large measure, to the resumption of money-lending business on the termination of the War, the high prices of the necessaries of life also encouraging an increase in the number of mortgages and documents of other descriptions. Money-lenders, who hesitated to advance their money during the War, came forward on the cessation of hostilities to utilise profits realised during the War in investments in landed and other property. An increase in the number of wills is ascribed to the influenza epidemic and its effects on the minds of men.

Financial. 112. The total receipts rose from Rs. 7,16,907 to Rs. 9,48,684, this being, for the most part, due to the increase in the number of documents registered. The total expenditure increased from Rs. 3,07,582 to Rs. 3,17,371.

Prosecutions. 113. There were four prosecutions under the Registration Act during the year. Convictions were obtained in all cases.

Inspections. 114. Inspections increased from 453 to 463.

25—Municipal Administration.

Constitution. 115. The total number of municipalities increased by one owing to the conversion of the Notified Area of Kanauj into a municipality from the 1st September, 1919. There was no alteration in the constitution of any of the boards except Lucknow and Naini Tal; the number of members was raised from 30 to 36 in the former and from 10 to 11 in the latter case. The increase at Lucknow was the result of a compromise between the Muslim and non-Muslim parties. Altogether the number of members increased from 1,015 to 1,055, the non-Muslims of some boards, who had hitherto abstained from election, now coming forward. The term of membership of the Almora board expired at the end of the year, and a fresh board then came in.

Chairmen. 116. The boards of Dehra, Deoband, Hapur, Atrauli, Chandpur, Tilhar, Kunch, and Bela (Partabgarh) elected non-official chairmen for the first time, thus raising the number of non-official chairmen in the province from 62 to 70 out of a total number of 84.

117. No change occurred in the powers of municipalities or of the Local Government as regards taxation. The task of preparing proposals for the substitution of terminal taxation for octroi continued throughout the year, and was concluded by seven more boards, namely Agra, Hardwar, Budaun, Saharanpur, Ghazipur, Chandausi, and Moradabad. Octroi is still being collected in 25 municipalities. Out of these it has been decided to allow the retention of this system by Lucknow and Gonda on account of the difficulty experienced in framing a suitable schedule which would bring in the required income and the apparent unsuitability of terminal taxation to those places. Taxation.

118. The total municipal income, excluding loans and advances, fell from Rs. 119·00 to Rs. 114·66 lakhs. The decrease was entirely due to a reduction in Government contributions of more than four lakhs. The municipal income was, therefore, much the same as last year. With the exception of an increase in income from terminal taxation, due to fresh accessions to the number of municipalities which have adopted the latter system, and a decrease in income from octroi for the same reason, and also excepting a decrease under the head of 'Miscellaneous' which is to be attributed to the stopping of the sale of cheap grain and salt, variations in income from different sources as compared with last year were insignificant. The incidence of taxation rose from Rs. 2-3-0 to Rs. 2-5-3 per head of population. Financial receipts.

119. Receipts from octroi fell from Rs. 37·43 to Rs. 34·17 lakhs, and receipts from terminal taxation rose from 5·97 to Rs. 10·61 lakhs. The main reason for these variations is that already given. Decreases in octroi in some municipalities is attributed to crop failure, difficulties of transport, and the prohibition of exports from certain States. Increases occurred, however, in several municipalities. Octroi and terminal taxation receipts.

120. The municipal income from taxes other than octroi rose by Rs. 1·29 lakhs. The main increases were in the tax on houses (Rs. 29,000), water tax (Rs. 50,000), tolls on roads and ferries (Rs. 10,000), tax on circumstances and property (Rs. 30,000), and the pilgrim tax (Rs. 37,000.) The only important decrease was one of Rs. 20,000 in the tax on trades and professions. The chief increases under the house tax occurred at Agra, Allahabad, Benares, and Hardoi; under the water tax at Agra, Allahabad, and Benares, while there were decreases under this head at Lucknow and Naini Tal. Under the tax on circumstances and property increases occurred at Najibabad, Sitapur, Nawabganj (Bara Banki), Bisalpur, Fatehpur, and Tanda, and under the pilgrim tax at Hardwar and Benares. For the decrease under the tax on trades and professions Hathras, Bareilly, and Lakhimpur were chiefly responsible. Receipts from taxes other than octroi and terminal taxation.

121. The total income under the head of income from sources other than taxation was Rs. 45·27 lakhs as against Rs. 52·29 lakhs in the previous year. The decrease is more than covered by a reduction in Government contributions of Rs. 4·38 lakhs and a fall of Rs. 5·20 lakhs under the head of "Miscellaneous." The figure under the latter head, which was swollen last year by receipts from the sale of salt and cheap grain, has now fallen to normal proportions. The real income from municipal property increased by Rs. 2·46 lakhs. Realizations under special Acts remained much the same as last year. Apart from the items mentioned above, variations occurred chiefly under sale-proceeds of lands (+Rs. 52,000), Conservancy receipts (+Rs. 31,000), Revenue from markets and slaughter-houses (+Rs. 78,000,) Sale of water (+Rs. 20,000), Interest of investments (+Rs. 41,000) Rents of lands—(Rs. 18,000,) Recoveries (—Rs. 54,600). Receipts from sources other than taxation.

122. Grants from Government amounted to Rs. 5·36 lakhs for general, Rs. 1·79 lakhs for educational, and Rs. 43,658 for medical purposes. Grants

123. The loans taken during the year totalled Rs. 1·50 lakhs as compared with Rs. 95,000 in the previous year. Rs. 8·07 lakhs were repaid as compared with Rs. 7·05 last year. Loans.

124. The expenditure for the year again rose by Rs. 2·62 lakhs to Rs. 107·12 lakhs, as compared with a rise in the previous year of Rs. 9·16 lakhs. Increases occurred under almost all heads, the only exceptions of any importance, being a decrease under plague charges of Rs. 19,000, under Expenditure.

roads of Rs. 21,000, under rents of Rs. 10,000, and fairly large decreases under contributions towards educational and general purposes and also under the head of interest paid on loans. The increase was largest under the heads of conservancy and public instruction, where it was Rs. 1,75,000 and Rs. 1,05,000 respectively; general administration accounts for Rs. 45,000, water-supply establishment for Rs. 56,500, printing charges for Rs. 44,000, lighting for Rs. 43,000, and public safety-fire for Rs. 32,000. In general the increase is to be attributed to revision of the pay of staff and increase in the cost of material.

Water-works.

125. Preliminary projects for the re-organization of the water-supplies of Lucknow and Allahabad have been completed and proposals for financing them are under consideration. The water-supply of these municipalities and also of Benares, Cawnpore, and Naini Tal is very precarious and Government has called the attention of the boards to the seriousness of the position. Several tube wells were sunk during the year.

Drainage.

126. Rupees 1,28,987 have been spent on the Kydganj drainage scheme at Allahabad, from the grant of two lakhs given by Government. The drainage scheme for the Agra municipality has been administratively approved. Work on drainage improvement at Moradabad is being carried out by contract. Work is also in progress at Lucknow, Almora, Dehra, Khurja, and Mussoorie. Schemes for Cawnpore and Muttra have been finally sanctioned by Government.

Lighting.

127. Expenditure on lighting rose from Rs. 7·11 to Rs. 7·54 lakhs. The increase was due almost entirely to the increase in price of oil and lamps and has not resulted in any general improvement in lighting arrangements.

Education.

128. Expenditure on education increased from Rs. 7,38,225 to Rs. 8,43,773, the largest increase—from Rs. 1,28,426 to Rs. 1,93,486—taking place in the Allahabad division, for which the Cawnpore, Allahabad, and Farrukhabad boards are chiefly responsible. There were fairly large increases also in the Fyzabad and Lucknow divisions. Agra and Gorakhpur showed small decreases, and in other divisions there was little change. In many cases the increase is due to boards taking under their management schools which had hitherto been managed by the district board. Primary schools for boys decreased by 17, while aided schools increased by 27; altogether the number of boys increased by 3,844. In secondary schools the number of scholars increased by 1,600. The number of girls' schools rose by 18 and the enrolment by 2,335.

The Primary Education Act, has not yet been applied to any municipality, the rules under the Act not being published by Government till after the close of the year.

Vaccination.

129. The total number of persons vaccinated was 1.19,765 as compared with 1,27,499 last year. Successful primary vaccinations and successful re-vaccinations numbered 87,235 and 12,723, as against 88,681 and 17,586 respectively in the preceding year. Kashipur heads the list of best-protected municipalities. Then come Naini Tal, Ghazipur, Almora, and Mussoorie in the order named. The worst protected are Mainpuri, Rae Bareli, Fatehpur, Tanda, and Fyzabad-Ajodhya.

Vital statistics.

130. The birth rate again fell from 41·75 to 40·70, and the death rate also declined from 80·94 to 42·99. The fall in the birth rate merely indicates that the full effect of the influenza epidemic of the previous year was not immediately felt. The infantile mortality fell from 367·52 per mille to 292·47. A scheme for the training of indigenous *dais* was started at six centres, but has so far not made much progress.

General.

131. The financial position of many boards is extremely unsatisfactory, but for this they are not wholly to blame. The circumstances of the last few-years have been abnormal. The boards appear to be now realizing the necessity of imposing additional taxation. Many of the defects in municipal administration noticed in previous reports still exist, though they are becoming less marked than they were. Lack of energy and a tendency to resent the interference of experts who are provided by Government expressly to assist the boards are among the weaknesses which have not yet entirely disappeared.

26—District Boards.

(For details see the annual report on the working of district boards for the year ending 31st March, 1920, and the tables under the heads "Local Boards" in Part VIII—Statistics of British India.)

Income. 132. The aggregate opening balance of the boards amounted to Rs. 42·71 lakhs against Rs. 42·68 lakhs in the previous year. Excluding this and advances and deposits, the income rose from Rs. 1,34,94,616 to Rs. 1,57,60,732. This increase of over 22 lakhs is chiefly due to increases of Rs. 9·68 lakhs under "Education," of Rs. 7·71 lakhs under "Civil Works," of Rs. 2·78 lakhs under "Provincial rates," and of Rs. 1·14 lakhs under "Miscellaneous." For the increases under the heads of Education and Civil Works Government contributions were mainly responsible.

Expenditure. 133. The total expenditure increased from Rs. 1,15,96,823 to Rs. 1,40,42,833. All important heads contributed in some measure to this increase, which is generally attributable to the increase in the cost of material and labour. The chief increases were Rs. 11·89 lakhs under "Education," Rs. 5·97 lakhs under "Civil Works," Rs. 3·48 lakhs under "Miscellaneous," and Rs. 2·07 lakhs under "Medical." Omitting deposits, the actual closing balance was Rs. 56·93 lakhs as against Rs. 40·52 lakhs last year.

Education. 134. The number of boards' schools rose from 9,952 to 11,737 and of aided schools from 2,231 to 2,490, while the total number of scholars rose from 705,714 to 787,714. The following table shows the expenditure under the principal sub-heads for the last two years:—

	1918-19. Rs. in lakhs.	1919-20. Rs. in lakhs.
Training and special schools ...	1·91	5·16
Middle schools	5·72	6·33
Primiary schools	28·62	36·19
Grants-in-aid	1·94	2·21
Scholarships	·94	1·08

The increase in the number of scholars is substantial, but perhaps hardly commensurate with the increase in the number of schools. High wages and scarcity of labour have made child labour more valuable than it was, and the campaign against illiteracy has been in consequence rendered more difficult than it would otherwise have been. The most difficult problem, however, is to find satisfactory teachers who are contented with their pay and prospects and show genuine enthusiasm for their work. Some progress has been made in the education of the depressed classes, especially in districts where special supervisors were appointed to stimulate a demand for education amongst them. There was a large increase in the number of girls' schools and of female students, but the advance was chiefly in the towns and in secondary vernacular education. As in the case of the depressed classes progress appears to be possible, but special inducements and propaganda are required to overcome the indifference of the people.

Medical. 135. Medical charges again rose by over a lakh. Travelling dispensaries continued to do very useful work and proposals are under consideration for increasing their number.

Sanitation. 136. Expenditure on sanitation fell from Rs. 2·08 to Rs. 1·75 lakhs. Little definite progress can be recorded in the matter of rural sanitation. Some of the boards appear to make little or no attempt to utilize the grants made to them by Government for this purpose. The question of a change of policy on the part of Government is under consideration.

Vaccination. 137. The returns for vaccination in section 53 of this report may be consulted.

Vital statistics. 138. Separate returns of vital statistics are not available, but those given in section 49 of this report may be concluded.

Arboriculture. 139. Arboriculture charges rose from Rs. 1·29 lakhs to Rs. 1·46 lakhs.

Civil works. 140. The increase of nearly six lakhs in expenditure under the head of civil works is mainly due to increased expenditure on educational buildings, financed chiefly by Government grants.

General. 141. District Board administration is admittedly unsatisfactory at present. The boards as a whole show few signs of vitality and the majority

of members display little interest in their duties. The explanation is believed to lie in their financial impotence and dependence on Government, together with the routine nature of their duties and the paucity of questions of importance calling for discussion. Proposals for effecting a change in the constitution and powers of boards are under consideration.

CHAPTER IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

27—Agriculture.

(For details see the annual reports on the Administration of the department of Agriculture for the year ending 30th June, 1920, on the Administration of the Civil Veterinary department for the year ending 31st March, 1920, and on the working of Co-operative Credit Societies for the year ending 30th June, 1920, the tables in the 'Agricultural Statistics of India, volume I,' and those under the head 'Co-operative Credit Societies' in Part II—Statistics of British India.)

General.

142. For the Agricultural department the year was again necessarily one of preparation. Little improvement showed itself in the opportunities for recruitment to the Indian Agricultural Service and the strength of the provincial cadre remains much the same. Schemes have, however, been prepared and approved by Government for a practically entire re-organization of the department in all its branches, namely, (1) demonstrational and experimental, (2) education and research, (3) engineering, and (4) cattle-breeding.

Under the first head there is contemplated a division of the provinces into ten agricultural circles based on territorial and soil peculiarities, each circle constituting an agricultural tract. An experimental farm will be located at the headquarters of each circle and the ultimate aim is to have a district farm in each district in the circle. The peculiarities of each tract will thus receive special study and experimental results will be further tested for every district. To meet the growing demands of the agricultural community and to provide the necessary education for the largely increased staff that will be required, a large expansion of the Agricultural College at Cawnpore is a matter of urgent necessity. This involves extension of the college buildings, acquisition of a larger farm, and expansion of the professorial, tutorial, and research staff.

Of the third branch of the department, the engineering branch, mention is made below. The fourth section, that of cattle-breeding, has recently been transferred from the charge of the Civil Veterinary department, and a Deputy Director of Agriculture has been specially recruited to control it. The scheme which has been approved involves the establishment of two large cattle ranches, one in the western and the other in the central portion of the provinces. A third may possibly be required eventually in the eastern tract.

Agricultural College.

143. The college continues to draw, as in the past few years, a satisfactory class of student, and the number of applications is greatly in excess of the possible admission. Owing to plague the college was closed as a precautionary measure and it was impossible to hold the examinations at the usual time. The college is still very short-handed. There has been no agriculturist in charge of the Agricultural side since 1914. A scheme for the expansion of the farm has been approved, but at present financial stringency stands in the way of its materialisation. This is all the more regrettable, as there is now a demand for education of this kind and there is reason to fear that if the standard be not improved this demand will cease. The extension of the college buildings under the grant made by the Government of India has not yet been commenced, though the plans are in course of preparation.

The status of the Agricultural School at Bulandshahr is being reconsidered in the light of the Calcutta University Commission Report. Should the recommendations of that Commission materialize, middle schools would have no definite place in the educational scheme and the question of raising their standard to that of intermediate colleges would arise.

144. No great progress has been made in the research work on cotton and sugarcane. Improvements have, however, been effected in the breeds of American cotton and good results from medium staple cotton have also been obtained. The future of this cotton is, however, uncertain. Research and demonstration.

The question of improved types of sugarcane is intimately bound up with questions of irrigation and power-crushing. The report of the Indian Sugar Committee, which is dealing with these questions, is expected shortly and the direction of further research will be considered on its receipt.

As was remarked last year, the principal value of the Pusa wheats lies in their high potentialities of yield under good cultivation. The wheats are now found practically throughout the provinces, having spread after the first introduction, without special agency. In certain places, however, they have not been accepted, chiefly in parts of Oudh, where the complaint is heard that they yield no more than the local wheats. The cultivators here have yet to learn that it is not sufficient to substitute one variety for another and further demonstration of the necessity of improved tillage and manuring is required.

Experiments for improvement and extension of fibre crops have been carried out with some success. The results in the case of flax are promising and experiments made with hemp and jute appear to indicate that profitable cultivation may be possible in places where conditions are suitable to their growth.

145. Some 30,000 maunds of wheat, mainly Pusa 12, were distributed. The distribution of various canes was carried out on the district farms, and an extensive distribution of seed of a robust and high morphine-yielding race was carried out in Rae Bareli. Distribution of seed.

146. The supply of implements is still limited and prices uncertain. Until a steadier market and stronger supply are forthcoming, little progress can be made. The demand for power plant is developing and the department is obtaining experience in the use of, and information as to the crops for, such implements as tractors and threshers. During the year a grant of Rs. 35,000 was given for this purpose. Sale of implements.

147. The need for manure especially in the case of sugarcane is becoming more insistent, but attempts at development have been hindered by the rise in prices. Manures.

148. The most important field of work in this direction lies in the erection of pumping installations. The value of tube wells is becoming appreciated and the demand is in large excess of the supply. To ensure a regular supply of some 200 installations a year, a scheme has been approved for the division of the provinces into circles under the charge of two Agricultural Engineers and a staff of six Assistant Engineers. The demand is not, however, limited to pumping machinery; applications are being received for sugar machinery, including cane-mills, threshers, tractors, and plant of every sort. Agricultural engineering.

149. The well-boring section is concerned with testing sites for new wells and with the improvement of existing wells. The borings led to 130 successful wells out of 206 trial borings made, while 377 out of 524 existing wells were bored with benefit. The scheme referred to in the paragraph on Agricultural Engineering includes the amalgamation of the well-boring with the Engineering section. Well-boring.

150. No bulletins were published during the year. Publications.

Civil Veterinary Department.

151. As usual, seven students were selected for training in veterinary colleges as scholarship-holders and, as in the previous year, three were sent to the Bengal and four to the Punjab Veterinary College. Most of the students undergoing courses passed their examinations, there being only one failure in each college. The United Provinces Veterinary Medical Society continues to do good work. Lectures were given by deputy superintendents on animal diseases to cultivators and stock-owners at various fairs and shows. The scheme for establishing a veterinary college in the United Provinces has not yet materialised, but it is hoped to put it into operation before long. A site has been selected at Lucknow. Education.

Disease.

152. The reported mortality from various contagious diseases increased from 16,233 to 42,715, rinderpest alone accounting for 32,572 deaths. Many more cases are now brought to light than in past years, when in a severe season hundreds of outbreaks occurred without being reported. Of equine diseases, 62 cases of glanders and farcy are reported, an increase of 17 on the previous year's figure. Most of them occurred in the districts of Agra and Moradabad. Cases of surra declined from 62 to 40. One hundred and fifty-five cases of strangles and 86 cases of tetanus were reported. Only isolated cases of tetanus are brought directly to the notice of the department, and there is reason to believe that many more cases actually occurred. Of bovine diseases, all districts were more or less affected by rinderpest, which visited the province in a very severe form. Inoculations were carried out in 43 districts. Haemorrhagic Septicaemia appeared in 35 districts and caused a total mortality of 1,627 as against 1,029 the year before. Blackquarter caused 236 deaths as against 178 and foot-and-mouth disease 4,084 as against 1,652 last year. Anthrax occurred in 22 districts against 19 last year and destroyed 758 head of cattle. Inoculations increased from 45,523 to 54,398, chiefly against rinderpest. The work was, however, seriously handicapped owing to the shortage of rinderpest serum, caused by an unusually large demand not only in these provinces but over the whole of India. Work on investigation of disease continued to increase. The number of hospitals and dispensaries rose from 88 to 95 and the total number of cases treated from 101,381 to 116,953.

Breeding.

153. The number of stud bulls and buffaloes maintained by the department increased from 286 to 313, located in 36 districts. The scheme for district cattle-breeding under which suitable bulls are issued on loan to district boards, local bodies, and private estates is gradually becoming more popular. As, however, it involves too much work for officers and the Veterinary department to continue in addition to their many other duties, this branch has been handed over to the Agricultural department under the control of a special officer appointed for the purpose. Twenty-four bulls were issued to districts from the Kheri cattle farm. No purchases were made during the year as the old stock was being overhauled. Twenty-five cattle were purchased for the Madhuri Kund cattle farm during the year and 38 stud bulls were either sold are issued on loan. The number of horse and pony stallions decreased by one. Sixty-seven were employed at stud work and the number of coverings amounted to 3,468, an increase of 42 over last year's figure. The progeny of the provincial sires shows a continued improvement, and they won more than half of the total prizes under the horse classes at the last Saharanpur fair. The number of donkey stallions remained the same; 16 were at stud work and coverings numbered 858, an increase of 23. The sheep-breeding experiments continued to be very encouraging and further developments are anticipated with a view to improving not only the quality and quantity of the wool of the indigenous sheep, but also its carcase for mutton.

A start with poultry-breeding was made during the year under the control of the department. A small demonstration poultry run has been established in Lucknow in connection with the research station, and it is intended to start others in connection with the cattle farms.

Establishment.

154. The strength of the subordinate establishment increased from 197 to 204. The cost of the department rose from Rs. 1,59,770 to Rs. 1,80,464.

Co-operative Societies.

General.

155. A considerable improvement in agricultural conditions resulted in an improvement in the position of most co-operative societies, except those whose condition was already hopeless and of the movement generally. The advances made to the primary societies were larger by Rs. 9·27 and the recoveries by Rs. 10·31 lakhs. Twelve new financing societies were registered during the year, six guaranteeing unions, and 683 primary societies, of which 655 were agricultural and 28 non-agricultural. Owing to large dissolutions, however, the net total increase in the number of primary societies

was only 296. These dissolutions, together with the fact that 110 of the new societies did not actually commence work till after the close of the year, are also responsible for a considerable decrease in the number of members, the total working capital, the members' deposits, and the paid-up share capital of the agricultural primary societies. On the other hand there were substantial increases under all these heads in the aggregate of societies which are classified as non-agricultural. The total owned capital of all classes of primary societies, consisting of the share capital, the undistributed profits, and the members' deposits increased by Rs. 1,05,872 and now amounts to Rs. 24,91,356. No less than 387 societies, of which 343 were agricultural, had to be dissolved during the year. This was unfortunate, but unavoidable; progress will be more apparent when the burden of these failures, which are a heritage of the past, has been removed. More attention is now being given to consolidating the position and to securing gradual and orderly development than to multiplication of societies.

Central societies.

156. Two district banks, nine central banks, and one central banking union were registered during the year. No central bank was closed. Six new guaranteeing unions were formed. The total number of central institutions working at the close of the year was as follows:—

District banks	29
Central banks	28
Banking unions	8
Guaranteeing unions	10
Total ...	75

Advances and recoveries were considerably better than in the previous year. The share capital paid up increased by Rs. 1·29 lakhs, the working capital by nearly a lakh, and the profit on the year from Rs. 2·16 to Rs. 2·24 lakhs. Loans made during the year increased from Rs. 21·15 to Rs. 32·64 lakhs; recoveries rose from Rs. 20·66 to Rs. 30·32 lakhs, and the year closed with outstandings amounting to Rs. 42·56 as compared with Rs. 40·19 last year. The proportion of arrears (including postponements) to the total outstandings was 42·3 per cent. as against 54·9 per cent. in 1918-19. These percentages include the amounts due from the societies in liquidation; if they are excluded from both years, the reduction appears as one from 48·7 to 26·2 per cent., a very satisfactory result of the year's working.

Rural societies.

157. The number of primary agricultural societies increased by 312, while the number of members decreased by 2,676. As already mentioned, 110 of the new societies did not commence work during the year. The working capital fell by Rs. 3·77 lakhs and the share capital by Rs. 10,000. Profits decreased from Rs. 2·01 to Rs. 1·57 lakhs. In other respects, the financial position showed an improvement. The advances increased by Rs. 10·63 lakhs, and the repayments in principal by Rs. 10·58 lakhs and in interest by Rs. 1·84 lakhs. The total outstandings with the members of the working societies at the close of the year amounted to Rs. 38·41 lakhs as compared with Rs. 41·53 lakhs at the close of the previous year. The arrears decreased from Rs. 23·83 lakhs to Rs. 14·90 lakhs, but this reduction is not altogether due to realisations, the exclusion of the figures relating to the cancelled societies being also partly responsible. The proportion of the share capital and the undistributed profits taken together, to the total outstandings, rose from 49·1 to 52·9 per cent. This means that more than half the money that the members borrow is now their own. Loans taken during the year were not large as the crops were good and the old members on the whole repaid more than they borrowed. From the information available it appears that about 29 per cent. of the total advances were made for the purchase of cattle, about 25 per cent. for the purchase of seed, and about 25 per cent. for the payment of rent. About 7 per cent. went to the repayment of outside debts and a little over 5 per cent. for trade.

Urban societies.

158. The non-agricultural credit societies with limited liability increased by 8 to 20, but those with unlimited liability decreased by 27 to

115. The new registrations amounted to 8 and 16 respectively in the two classes and the dissolutions by 1 and 43. Several of the old limited liability societies are doing well. A gratifying feature of this class of societies is that they are working almost entirely with their own capital. Seven new societies of this kind were formed in public offices in different districts. The unlimited liability societies consist of weavers, makers of durries, carpets, shoes and bangles and petty shopkeepers. Many of the former are doing well, and considerable impetus will be given to weavers' societies by the appointment of a special Junior Assistant Registrar to look into their requirements. The urban societies of small traders and shopkeepers, however, have not shown much improvement. Most of the societies dissolved belong to this class.

The position of the non-credit societies remained much the same. The last of the cattle insurance societies had to be dissolved. Some of the dairies are doing well, but the same cannot be said of the *ghi* societies.

The number of non-agricultural non-credit societies increased from 9 to 13. The progress made by college stores has not come up to expectations, but similar associations formed by subordinate Government officials are, in many cases, prospering. Two housing schemes for the subordinate officials at Cawnpore and Lucknow conceived on co-operative lines seem to have received good support.

28—Weather and Crops.

(For details see the annual season and crop report for the year ending 30th June, 1920, the 'Agricultural Statistics of British India,' and 'Prices and Wages in India'.)

Character of the season.

159. The year was one of heavy rainfall, but its distribution was not very favourable, and from an agricultural point of view the season can only be described as fairly good. The rainfall in June was below normal throughout the provinces and only a few of the south-eastern districts received sufficient rain for sowings. In July, while nearly all districts received sufficient rain, agricultural operations in Bundelkhand were retarded by an excessive amount. August was a month of heavy rainfall, but its distribution was not altogether favourable for the crop system of the provinces. The cotton-growing districts of the Doab and Rohilkhand and the whole of Bundelkhand found it excessive, while for the rice-growing tracts in the submontane belt it was comparatively light. A heavy downpour in the first two weeks of September was followed by a welcome break, which continued, except for some showers in the eastern districts, until the first week in October, when good rain fell in the eastern districts and Bundelkhand, but did not extend beyond Cawnpore in the western districts. The rest of the month was practically rainless. On the whole, however, the rainfall early in October was of great value in preparing the land for the *rabi*, and it permitted sowings on an extensive scale. Only light showers were received in November and the first part of December, but the rainfall in the fourth week of that month was heavier and fairly general, and greatly benefited the *rabi*. January was practically rainless, except for some rain in the western districts and the Himalayan tract. The crops were generally benefited by the general, though scanty, rain in the first half of February, while the hailstorms which fell in March facilitated the preparation of the land for sugarcane, though they also caused some damage to other crops.

Cultivated area.

160. The total cultivated *kharif* area showed an improvement over the figures of the last year by about 1,588,000 acres, or 7 per cent., which was exactly the figure by which it declined in the year 1918-19, while the *rabi* area showed an increase of 4,687,880 acres or 32 per cent. In the *kharif* area the Meerut and Agra divisions showed increases of 18 and 16 per cent. respectively, while in the *rabi* area the Jhansi division headed the list with an increase of 120 per cent. The Bundelkhand districts could not sow the whole of their newly broken land in the *kharif* on account of continuous rainfall in the early months of the monsoon, but the existence of ample moisture enabled them to carry out *rabi* sowings on a very extensive

scale. The most noticeable feature in the western districts was a continued increase in the areas under wheat and gram, probably chiefly due to the rise in prices of these commodities. As regards *kharif*, the area under late rice, *bajra*, sugarcane, and indigo declined in comparison with the area sown in the previous year, but *juar*, maize, cotton, and small millets showed an improvement. Of the *rabi* crops all but poppy returned better figures than last year.

Irrigation.

161. As a natural consequence of the character of the year there was a decrease in the total area irrigated as compared with the previous season, the figures being 11,591,000 and 12,389,000 acres respectively. In all, the irrigated area amounted to 31 per cent. of the total area cultivated. Of this, 17 per cent. was irrigated from wells, 8 per cent. from canals, and 6 per cent. from other sources. The total number of masonry wells actually in use fell from 561,963 to 557,325, but the number of wells constructed during the year was 14,627 as against 14,214 of the previous year, no less than 2,632 new wells being constructed in Gorakhpur. The number of non-masonry wells in actual use fell from 1,061,528 to 827,380.

Outturn.

162. While the *kharif* outturn was a great improvement on that of the previous year, it was in nearly all cases below normal. *Bajra* was the best crop, yielding 95 against a normal yield of 100. Early rice, *juar*, and sugarcane gave returns of 90; while late rice, *mandua*, maize, and cotton yielded 85.

Though the *rabi* crop was a very fair harvest, it was not up to the average of the yaer 1916-17. The barley crop was 95 per cent. of the normal and the wheat, gram, linseed. and rapeseed crops 90 per cent. The opium crop was the same as in the previous year, 75 per cent.

Price.

163. Prices were rising steadily at the close of the previous year and, owing to apprehensions of a delayed monsoon, they rose still higher until good and general rain was received in July, when they became slightly easier. They remained stationary in August but generally fell in September with the arrival of new grain in the market. They were stationary again in October and November and rose slightly in December. A downward tendency was noticeable early in January which culminated in March with the advent of fresh supplies in a general fall. They again began to rise in May and the tendency continued throughout June. The failure of satisfactory *kharif* and *rabi* harvests to have any great permanent effect on prices is attributed in part to continued difficulties in obtaining means of quick transport. That they did, however, result in some improvement may be seen from an examination of the the course of prices in the Cawnpore market. In June, 1919, wheat stood at 5·25 seers to the rupee; by the following April the price had fallen to 7·25 seers: it rose again to 6·25 seers in June, 1920. Barley commenced the year at 7·62 seers, fell to 11 seers in April, and stood at the close of the year at 9·50 seers. Gram started at 5·50 seers, fell to 8·75 seers in May, and ended up at 8 seers. *Juar*, which was only 4·62 seers in June, 1919, dropped to 11·25 seers in April and rose again to 10·50 in June, 1920. The price of rice was, as last year, very much influenced by the quantity imported. At the commencement of the year five seers were obtainable to the rupee and at the end of the year only four seers. *Gur* fluctuated but slightly and remained high. The price of fodder fell considerably.

29—Horticulture.

(For detail see the annual reports on the Horticulture Garden at Lucknow and the Botanical Gardens at Saharanpur, for the year ending 31st March, 1920.)

Horticultural gardens.

164. The season was favourable and there was a large increase in the sale and distribution of acclimatised flower, vegetable, and tree seeds at the Lucknow gardens. No less than 47,062 packets were sold or presented to Government institutions as against 19,405 in the preceding year. Of these, 1,166 packets were supplied free to soldiers' gardens. The total value of

the plants and other garden produce distributed free amounted to Rs. 2,041. Total receipts rose from Rs. 12,375 to Rs. 15,056, the increase being due to larger calls for flower seed and economic plants. Ninety-four thousand three hundred and sixty-nine plants and cuttings were distributed, fruit trees and ornamental plants accounting for more than half this number. Expenditure increased from Rs. 33,396 to Rs. 45,989.

The number in the Choudhry class fell from 12 to 8. Of these, four completed their course, were granted certificates, and assisted to obtain employment; one was dismissed and the remaining three are still in the class. Very few applications for admittance to the class were received and the reason suggested by the Superintendent is that the slight manual labour required from the youths under training acts as a deterrent in spite of the fact that monthly allowances of Rs. 7, 8, and 10 are made by Government to students during the three years they are in training.

The pumping installation erected by the Agricultural department in 1918-19 is an undoubted success and has more than fulfilled expectations. It is also of great interest to the public, demonstrating as it does at a most conveniently situated spot, one of the best and perhaps most inexpensive methods of raising water for irrigation purposes.

Botanical gardens.

165. As at Lucknow, there was a fairly large improvement in the income of the gardens at Saharanpur, direct receipts rising from Rs. 17,735 to Rs. 19,989, while expenditure only rose from Rs. 36,559 to Rs. 36,918. It is suggested by the Superintendent that sales would have been greater but for the fact that increased railway freight and the greater chance of loss on the railways, due to delays and other causes, have discouraged orders. The gardens were also understaffed and this had a prejudicial effect on their efficiency and general appearance. Little new work could be undertaken.

The sanctioned number for the Choudhry class is 18; while the number entertained during the year was only 10. There appears to be little or no prospect of increasing the number so long as present conditions continue. The starting pay of this class at Saharanpur is from Rs. 20 to Rs. 25 per month with prospects of gradual promotion, but even this is now proving insufficient to induce good material to join the class. There were about the usual number of applications for *malis* or choudhrys.

30—Forests.

(For details see the annual progress report on Forest administration for the year ending 30th June, 1920, and the tables under the head "Forests," Part IV(b).—Statistics of British India.)

Area and demarcation.

166. The area of State forests under the control of the Forest department remained the same as last year, 7,471 square miles, or 6·7 per cent. of the total area of the province. The settlement of the reserved forests of the Chakrata division in the Jaunsar-Bawar pargana has now been completed at a total cost of Rs. 16,859. In the Kumaun circle out of 1,097 square miles of demarcated forest still awaiting reservation, 602 square miles were reserved. The total length of the boundaries at the end of the year was 14,772 miles, of which 2,675 are natural and do not require any artificial marks. Thirty-seven miles in East Almora is all that remains to be demarcated.

Revenue.

167. The total receipts realized during the year rose from Rs. 67·53 to Rs. 73·56 lakhs, while the surplus decreased from Rs. 19·61 to Rs. 9·55 lakhs. The decrease of ten lakhs is again entirely due to capital expenditure incurred on the factories at Bareilly. The increase of six lakhs in gross revenue occurred mainly in the Western Circle and is due to the better prices obtained at auctions.

Expenditure.

168. The total expenditure rose from Rs. 47·92 lakhs to Rs. 64 lakhs. The increase is due principally to the Bareilly factories and heavy purchases of stores, tools and plant for them: to the revision of pay of the Indian

Forest Service and appointment of temporary Assistant Conservators and to the Nepal Sleeper Scheme alluded to in last year's report. The only heads which showed decreases were "Rent of leased forests" and "Organization and improvements."

Outturn.

169. The outturn of timber decreased slightly from 8·9 to 8·7 million cubic feet and its value from Rs. 46·19 to Rs. 44·33 lakhs. Two million eighty-two thousand three hundred and thirty-three metre-guage sleepers were supplied to railways. The *chir* market in Kumaun was dull, this being attributed chiefly to shortage of railway wagons. There was a noteworthy decrease under "Bamboos," the prices of which were also adversely affected by wagon shortage and poverty of coupes. The outturn of fuel increased from 23·9 to 25·4 million cubic feet, while the value remained practically the same as last year. The value of the output of minor produce rose from Rs. 20·09 to Rs. 25·93 lakhs. The crop of crude rosin was 101,943 maunds as against 93,386 maunds, or an increase of 8,557 maunds, but owing to weather and labour conditions being unfavourable the average outturn per 100 channels decreased from 4·57 to 3·58 maunds. The quantity of both rosin and turpentine manufactured and sold was less than in the preceding year partly because the Punjab plant at Jallo dealt with a quantity of United Provinces resin last year but not during the year under report, and partly because the old plant at Bhowali was deteriorating.

Breaches of forest rules.

170. Breaches of forest rules fell from 4,685 to 4,483, including 2,476 cases of unauthorised felling or removal and 1,607 cases of unauthorized grazing. Cases taken to court numbered 159, inclusive of 32 pending from last year. One hundred and fifteen cases were decided and 44 were pending at the close of the year. Convictions were obtained in 91 cases, or 79·1 per cent. The number of cases compounded totalled 3,629 and involved 18,751 persons as compared with 3,766 cases and 16,249 persons last year. The average compensation taken again fell from Re. 1-4-9 to Rs. 1-2-4 per person.

Protection from fire.

171. The season was again unfavourable to fire conservancy owing to shortage of rainfall in the winter and spring. The area in which protective measures were undertaken was 46·91 per cent. of the whole forest area, or slightly less than last year. There were in all 320 fires, which covered an area of 156 square miles as compared with 283 fires which burnt 95·2 square miles in 1918-19. Although more fires occurred in both the Western and Kumaun circles, by far the largest area was burnt in the Eastern circle. In the Gorakhpur division of this circle one fire which burnt 8,000 acres was caused by the carelessness of a forest guard. There was a certain amount of incendiarism but no very marked epidemic of it, except perhaps in Pilibhit and Kheri.

Grazing.

172. The income from grazing dues remained unchanged—Rs. 1·24 lakhs. Thirty per cent. of the total grazing area remained closed and 52 per cent. remained open to all animals for the whole year. The number of cattle grazed increased by about 15,000.

Communications and buildings.

173. The total expenditure incurred on new works and repairs was Rs. 1·70 lakhs as compared with Rs. 1·81 lakhs in the preceding year. Two hundred and sixty-three miles of new roads and paths were constructed and 6,222 miles were repaired. The scheme for the development of communications in the Sarda valley in the Haldwani division with a view to the opening up of the Unarao valley in Nepal for the export of sleepers worked very successfully. A wire ropeway was thrown across the river at Ban Ghat and with the aid of an oil engine sleepers were passed across at the rate of 2,000 a day. The Almora-Kathgodam. Naini Tal ropeway scheme was completed and forwarded to the Government of India for submission to the Secretary of State. In the Saharanpur division a good road 14 miles in length suitable for motor traffic was constructed along the old submontane road. A revised programme for a net-work of bridle-paths with a view to enabling mule transport to be substituted for coolies in the Kumaun circle was drawn up in consultation with the revenue authorities and is now under the consideration of Government. Several miles of bridle-paths in Almora and Garhwal were constructed, and several railway and road

schemes of supreme importance to forest development were entered on the approved list of the Board of Communications.

The expenditure on buildings in all circles was Rs. 8,88,794 on new works and Rs. 56,578 on repairs as compared with Rs. 6,68,894 and Rs. 48,346 respectively in the previous year. A large proportion of this expenditure was incurred on the construction of the new resin factory buildings near Bareilly and on the Sawmill and Turnery and Wood Working Institute buildings. Nearly two lakhs were expended on houses for subordinates and rest-houses. A house was purchased at Ranikhet as a rest-house and headquarter dwelling for the new Ranikhet forest division.

General.

174. The year's achievement, though not quite commensurate with expectations, was on the whole satisfactory. Difficulties of recruitment, shortage of labour, and delay in the supply of material continued to stand in the way of rapid development, the new factories at Bareilly being specially handicapped by the last two causes.

The policy which was outlined in previous reports is still being pursued. In the new Utilization circle the objects aimed at are educational, experimental, and commercial. Alike in the Wood Working Institute at Bareilly and in the factories the intention is to train up Indians in the use of machinery and in the control of up-to-date commercial concerns; and at the same time to test, first in the laboratory and workshops, and later on on a larger scale the commercial possibilities of the different varieties of timber and to encourage by practical demonstration their exploitation by private industrial agency.

The chief administrative reform of the year was the constitution of the Working Plans and Research circle. Several decades of systematic protection have now rendered intensive working practicable and new working plans are a necessary preliminary to the full exploitation of the forests' increased resources. The constitution of the new circle is calculated to place both research and the preparation of working plans on a scientific basis and to co-ordinate the sylvicultural activities of the province.

The afforestation of ravine lands has hitherto been on an experimental scale, but it has now reached a stage which would appear to justify a more ambitious programme. The terms on which such lands were leased from private owners have recently been revised in the landlord's favour and the inducements now offered should secure their co-operation.

Considerable progress was made with the arrangements entered into with the Nepal Darbar for the extraction from Nepal of two lakhs of broad-gauge sal sleepers, though unexpected difficulties which have been encountered have increased the cost per sleeper beyond the original estimate. There was no reason to suppose at the time when that estimate was made that there would be any difficulty as regards either labour or supplies, but it became apparent at the end of 1919 that both trade and labour were leaving Nepal by a different and hitherto unused route and that no reliance whatever could be placed on local labour or local supplies. In these circumstances there was no alternative but to arrange for their import from British India. Other difficulties also had to be surmounted. It was found that transport of the sleepers across the river in boats had many drawbacks and a wire ropeway was therefore put up by the Forest Engineer, the material being purchased from the Khyber ropeway. Delay occurred in the arrival of an oil engine from Bombay but as soon as it had arrived the ropeway was quickly working and has proved completely successful, transporting the sleepers at a quicker rate and at considerably less costs than the boats. Altogether about one lakh of sleepers were exported across the river and it is expected that the balance will reach Baramdeo by the end of March, 1921.

31—Mines and Quarries.

(For details see the tables under 'Mineral production' in Part I—Statistics of British India.)

Mines.

175. There are practically no mines in these provinces. Gold dust was produced in the Naini Tal and Garhwal districts to the value of Rs. 20

and Rs. 286 respectively. The mine in the Jhansi district remained closed throughout the year. Three maunds of iron ore of the value of Rs. 20 was mined in the Garhwal district as compared with nine maunds of the value of Rs. 74 last year.

Quarries.

176. In the Almora district 17,786 tons of slates worth Rs. 5,376 were quarried as against 27,676 tons valued at Rs. 5,284 in the previous year. The Mirzapur stone quarries produced 135,962 tons, principally building stone and ballast or about 6,000 tons less than in 1918-19. The value of the outturn remained the same, namely Rs. 2·8 lakhs. The Banda quarries produced 9,693 tons to the value of Rs. 35,015 as compared with 9,069 tons worth Rs. 46,619 last year. On the whole there was a slight decrease in the outturn for all districts in which quarries were worked and also a slight decrease in the value.

32—Manufacture.

(For details see the tables in Parts I and II—Statistics of British India.)

Cotton.

177. The number of ginning and pressing factories worked during the year was 118 employing 11,000 operatives against 79 employing 8,428 during the previous year. The improvement is due to the cotton crop being better. The number of cotton mills was 17 as against 19 last year. The number of looms and spindles worked was 4,455 and 455,277 respectively as against 4,460 looms and 459,777 spindles in the previous year. Two unimportant concerns ceased to work, but the number of persons employed increased from 15,735 to 15,994 which shows that the industry on the whole has not suffered.

Sugar factories.

178. There were 12 factories employing 2,694 operatives as against 10 employing 2,706 last year. The abnormal rise in the price of sugar has acted as an incentive to capitalists to start sugar factories on a large scale.

Indigo.

179. The number of indigo factories was 73 employing 7,238 workmen as against 63 employing 8,293 in the previous year. Although the number of factories has increased, conditions are hardly in favour of increased production.

Lac.

180. The number of lac factories, all of which are in Mirzapur, fell from 31 to 24 and the number of operatives employed from 2,950 to 2,260. The price of the material has increased concurrently with a decrease in the amount exported. The decrease in the number of factories is attributed to difficulties of transportation.

Tanneries.

181. The number of tanneries rose from 6 to 7 and the number of workmen from 5,925 to 6,674. A new tannery was started at Cawnpore. The industry on the whole was in a flourishing condition, but there are signs that the boom is now over.

Miscellaneous.

182. The number of glass works remained the same, namely 5. Of these, only 2 come under the Factories Act and are worked by mechanical power. The works at Bijhoi have been very successful and employed during the year 160 operatives as against 110 in the previous year. The other factory at Naini, Allahabad, employed 430 hands.

The number of flour mills rose from 4 to 5 and the number of operatives employed from 562 to 740.

There are 8 power-driven oil mills which worked quite satisfactorily during the year. There was a slight fall in the number of operatives employed from 637 to 619. In addition to these there are many small concerns which are still in the experimental stage. The industry is receiving attention from capitalists and there is hope of considerable expansion.

There is only one power-driven mill which manufactures woollen material. The number of operatives employed by it decreased slightly from 4,469 to 4,309.

There is only one jute mill with 75 looms and 2,280 spindles, but all were not working and the mill only employed 371 labourers as against 587 in 1918-19. The decline is probably due to transport difficulties.

The brush industry continues to progress and the year was the most prosperous year on record for the carpet industry.

Weaving School.

183. Admissions to the Central Weaving Institute, Benares, increased from 87 to 121. During the year the Institute was made a centre for the City and Guilds examination and five boys successfully passed. In addition to the three years' technical and hosiery classes, carpentry and smithy classes have been commenced.

District weaving schools and peripatetic weaving schools continue to do good work. The schools at Budaun and Mau, which had been hitherto peripatetic schools, were made permanent. The Mau school is the most successful weaving school in the province.

The peripatetic schools are generally popular and are doing good work. They are managed entirely by passed students of the Central Weaving Institute, Benares. Schools if not a success at one place are transferred to another, where they are more appreciated. Thus the school at Agra was transferred to Hapur, and the school at Deokali in the Fyzabad district to Jaunpur. Some improvement has been effected in the position of the Hosiery school at Almora and with the provision of better equipment and a liberal supply of machines, needles, and yarn the school should do well.

Joint Stock Companies.

184. Twenty-nine new Joint Stock Companies with registered capital of Rs. 11,86,10,000 were registered during the year as compared with 9 with registered capital of Rs. 16,32,000 in the previous year. This extraordinary rise in the number of new flotations is attributed chiefly to the termination of the War, the industrial revival, and the withdrawal from the Statute Book of the Indian Companies Restriction Act. Of the new companies registered the British India Corporation Limited, Cawnpore, with an authorized capital of 10 crores, is the largest concern that has ever been registered in the province.

33.—Trade.

(For details see the annual reports on inland and foreign trade for the year ending 31st March, 1920, and the accounts of trade carried by rail and river in India.)

Addition to the Railway system.

185. No additions were made to the railway systems.

Total rail-borne traffic.

186. The volume of rail-borne traffic decreased by 2,31¾ lakhs of maunds in weight but its value rose by Rs. 42 lakhs. The decrease occurred both in the imports and exports: in the former owing mainly to smaller receipts of grains and in the latter owing to fodder, grains, mineral substances and sugar having been despatched in less quantities than in the previous year.

Imports.

187. Imports dropped by 68 lakhs of maunds in weight and by Rs. 71⅔ lakhs in value, as compared with a rise of 109 lakhs of maunds and Rs. 1,367 lakhs in 1918-19. The trade with Bihar and Orissa fell by about 38 lakhs of maunds, that with Bengal by 18 lakhs of maunds and that with the Punjab by about 16¾ lakhs of maunds, chiefly in consequence of smaller receipts of grains. Some decrease also occurred in the imports from the Bombay Presidency, mainly under oilseeds and salt. On the other hand trade with the chief seaports, with the exception of Madras, improved. Imports from Calcutta increased under grains, metals, and railway plant, and from Karachi under railway plant and oils. Smaller supplies of sugar were, however, received from Calcutta. Taking imports as a whole we find increases under coal and coke, metals and kerosine, and decreases under cotton goods, grains, oilseeds, salt, sugar, and wool.

Exports.

188. In 1918-19 exports decreased by over 50 lakhs of maunds but rose in value by Rs. 795 lakhs. In 1919-20 they further declined in weight by 163 lakhs of maunds while they again rose in value by Rs. 113⅔ lakhs Exports, chiefly of grains, to the Bombay Presidency dropped by 20 lakhs of maunds, to Bombay port by about 46 lakhs of maunds, and to Karachi by 82 lakhs of maunds. The export, mostly of grains, to Bihar and Orissa, on the other hand increased by about 10 lakhs of maunds. On the whole,

exports rose under the heads of raw cotton and hides and skins and oilseeds and declined under fodder, grains, minerals, sugar, and wood. The decline was most noticeable under fodder, grains, and sugar. The fall in exports of grains thus confined mainly to the chief sea-ports and to the Bombay Presidency and was the result of Government control. The decrease under sugar was due to a smaller crop, and the increase under raw cotton to a larger area under cotton and a more favourable season.

Trade of Cawnpore.

189. Imports into Cawnpore declined by 10,84,352 maunds owing to smaller receipts of coal and coke, and grains. Of exports increases occurred under hides and skins, oilseeds, railway plant, and raw cotton: decreases occurred under fodder and grains.

Internal rail-borne traffic.

190. The volume of the internal rail-borne traffic fell from 382 lakhs, to 371 lakhs of maunds. Raw and manufactured cotton, metals, oilseeds and wood showed a rise but most other heads exhibited a decrease.

River-borne traffic.

191. There was a considerable falling-off in the river-borne traffic between the United Provinces and Calcutta. Imports fell from 1,81,911 maunds to 47,199 maunds and exports from 70,861 maunds to 25,007 maunds. The decline of imports occurred chiefly under cotton goods, grains, "gunny-bags and cloth," and sugar, and of exports under grains, oilseeds, and sugar.

Foreign Trade.

Tibet.

192. Trade with Tibet showed a slight increase amounting to 637 maunds as regards imports, but their value declined by Rs. 1,29,516. Exports rose by 1,960 maunds and by Rs. 1,64,403 in value. Borax, salt, and wool are the chief articles imported from Tibet, and cotton goods, grains, and sugar are the main articles of export. Imports of borax dropped from 30,836 to 25,984 maunds; while those of salt, which had declined in the preceding year by 5,828 maunds, rose by 7,707 maunds. The trade in wool declined by 2,199 maunds; while that in silver coin increased by Rs. 41,040. The variations occurred mainly in the Almora district and the reason for the decrease is said to be the shortage of pack animals, many of whom are supposed to have been destroyed owing to the heavy snows of the previous winter. Of the exports, a small increase occurred under cotton goods and a larger fall under sugar. The trade in grains increased from 35,900 to 39,148 maunds. Exports of tea show a small increase. It is thought that tea from British India is used by poor people in Tibet, who cannot afford to pay the high price of Chinese brick tea. The increase in cotton goods and grains is reported to be due to the absence of cholera and other epidemics in Tibet.

Nepal.

193. Imports from Nepal, which had declined by 6,13,283 maunds in 1918-19, showed a further decrease of 3,17,365 maunds in the year under report owing to smaller receipts of grains, fibrous products raw, oilseeds, and spices. On the other hand, there was an improvement of 38,832 maunds in the export trade. The value, however, both of imports and exports rose; the former by Rs. 24,74,757 and the latter by Rs. 16,07,760. The bulk of the import trade with Bahraich, Gonda, Basti, and Gorakhpur was smaller than last year; while Kheri and Pilibhit show an increase. The decline was specially noticeable under the head of imports of grains in the Basti, Gorakhpur, and Bahraich districts. There was also a slight decrease under this commodity in Almora, but the other districts imported more of it than in the previous year. Bahraich and Gonda are also chiefly responsible for a decrease in the imports of fibrous products raw. Articles of imports in which there was an improvement are drugs, cutch, fruits and vegetables, gums and resins, hides and skins, oils and *ghi*.

Exports to Nepal had risen by 10,032 maunds in 1918-19; in the present year they further increased by 38,832 maunds. The increase is shared by all the districts concerned except Gonda and Bahraich, which show slight decreases. The improvement occurred in the export of cotton, goods, fruits and vegetables, grains, metals, spices, sugar, and tobacco; while exports of *mahua* and salt declined.

34—Buildings and Roads.

(For details see the annual administration report of the Public Works department, Buildings and Roads branch, for the year ending 31st March, 1920.)

Revenue and expenditure.

194. The revenue realized during the year by the Buildings and Roads branch of the Public Works department amounted to Rs. 4·04 lakhs, of which Rs. 3·42 lakhs were provincial. The expenditure totalled over Rs. 116 lakhs, or Rs. 16 lakhs more than the previous year. Of this total over Rs. 3 lakhs were for imperial works, Rs. 62,688 for famine relief, Rs. 77·69 lakhs for provincial works, Rs. 27·37 lakhs for excluded local funds, and Rs. 6·50 lakhs for contribution works.

Imperial buildings.

195. Except for some works of a temporary nature at the Imperial Cadet Corps Lines at Dehra Dun, which were carried out for the purpose of adapting the buildings to the needs of the mechanical transport training school, almost the whole of the expenditure under the head of Imperial Civil Works was again absorbed by the Imperial Bacteriological department in developing the laboratories at Mukhtesar. Works undertaken in other parts of the province were connected with the conversion of a cake godown into vats for storing opium at the Opium factory at Ghazipur, and the construction of a combined post and telegraph office at Pilibhit.

Provincial buildings.

196. The total expenditure under the head of provincial buildings amounted to Rs. 25½ lakhs, or an increase of about Rs. 11 lakhs over the outlay of the previous year. Of this expenditure more than one-third, or a little over Rs. 9 lakhs, went in meeting the needs of the Educational department. Nearly Rs. 9 lakhs were expended on administrative buildings, Rs. 1·60 lakhs on Police buildings, and Rs. 3·30 lakhs on Public Works buildings.

Improvements were carried out both in Government House, Naini Tal, and in Government House, Lucknow. Good progress was made with the Agricultural Middle School at Bulandshahr and the Training College at Agra. Most of the unfinished educational works of the previous year, including the new High School at Cawnpore, were completed, and many new ones were commenced. A fair proportion of the total outlay on educational institutions was expended on structures erected to further the cause of female education. The new courts of Pilibhit were completed and opened; those at Basti are still under construction. Eight police stations were completed, and also the police lines and jail buildings at Ballia.

Communications.

197. In spite of difficulties in obtaining railway wagons for the transport of road metal and coal for steam road-rollers good progress was made under this head. The total expenditure on communications rose from Rs. 26·24 to Rs. 28·76 lakhs. An additional length of 66 miles was metalled, thus bringing the total provincial mileage to 7,395 miles exclusive of 22 miles maintained by local agency.

One of the most important works completed was the inter-provincial trunk link with the Punjab through Saharanpur. This was pressed on in consequence of a promise made to the Punjab Government to provide an approach road on the United Provinces side of the river Jumna as soon as work started on the other side of the river. The completion of the Rajpur-Mussoorie cart-road to Kolukhet was also effected. Another work of considerable magnitude started in 1917 and on which satisfactory progress was made during the year is the construction of a cart-road between Bhatronjkhan on the Ranikhet-Ramnagar road and Ganai in the Almora district.

The provincial Board of Communications has drawn up a comprehensive programme for the development of communications, both of provincial and of local importance. Its cost is considerable, amounting to several crores, and until further financial sources have been discovered it will not be possible to take it in hand.

Navigation.

198. Navigation works were confined to the same districts and to the same areas as in previous years. A length of about 343 miles of the river Ganges in the districts of Allahabad, Mirzapur, Benares, Ghazipur, and Ballia and 97 miles of the river Gogra in the Ballia and Azamgarh districts

were maintained in navigable condition at a cost of Rs. 10,292, as compared with Rs. 12,222 last year.

Electric light and power.

199. Comparatively little progress could be made on electrical works owing to the dearth of materials. A considerable number of Government buildings, however, were connected with the supply mains, and some Rs. 64,000 was spent in providing additional lights and fans and re-arranging the wiring in public buildings, especially in Allahabad, Lucknow, and Agra. The hydro-electric scheme for Naini Tal has been revived and a project amounting to Rs. 11 lakhs was prepared. Several schemes are in hand for hydro-electric or purely electric services in connection with municipal water-supplies.

Sanitary works.

200. The construction of sanitary works was again greatly handicapped by the difficulty in obtaining materials. Expenditure on construction and maintenance amounted to Rs. 15·94 lakhs, or a little more than the previous year. Schemes to the value of Rs. 75·08 lakhs were completed and submitted for sanction. Work was in hand on the preparation of projects valued at about Rs. 162 lakhs.

The water-supplies of the large municipalities were maintained without any serious breakdown during the year. The demand for water in these areas has exceeded the capacity of the plants, and preliminary proposals for re-organizing the supplies have been drawn up for Allahabad, Benares, and Lucknow. The project for Cawnpore is being dealt with by the Improvement Trust Committee. A Mechanical Engineer has now been appointed whose duty will be to study and report on all machinery owned by municipalities. Satisfactory progress was made in improving some of the town drainage systems, particularly in Agra, Allahabad, Cawnpore, and Lucknow.

Arboriculture.

201. Arboricultural operations included 69 miles planted and 1,743 miles maintained at a cost of Rs. 85,811. Revenue from sale of produce amounted to Rs. 31,215.

Private works.

202. A sum of Rs. 3·58 lakhs was expended on works of public utility, such as *dharamsalas*, wells, and schools: these being constructed either by private individuals at their own expense, or by the Public Works department from contributions received.

General.

203. Much useful architectural work was done during the year, designs and estimates being prepared for a number of buildings.

A project circle was created with the object of co-ordinating work in the matter of preparation of schemes. It accomplished a considerable amount of valuable work, but it had to be closed down somewhat prematurely owing to financial difficulties and pressing leave arrangements.

35—Canals.

(For details see the annual administration report of the Public Works department, Irrigation branch, for the year ending 31st March, 1920.)

Outlay and construction.

204. The capital expenditure on canals during the year was Rs. 10·58 lakhs as compared with Rs. 11·42 lakhs in the previous year. The total capital outlay, direct and indirect, to the end of the year amounted to Rs. 13·25 crores. Of the year's expenditure Rs. 3·43 lakhs were spent on protective works, Rs. 6·15 lakhs on productive works and the balance on minor works. The amount spent on protective works was chiefly incurred in the Jhansi, Banda, and Hamirpur districts on the construction of the Barwar lake and canal, tanks at Batkhara and Jaiwanti, and on the Ken and Dhasan canals, while that on works of a productive nature was in the main restricted to the permanent headworks on the Ganges canal, the Sarda-Kichha feeder canal, and the Garai, Bijnor, and Dun canals. The minor works programme was principally made up of the building of tanks at Kulpahar, Rampur, Kalyangarh, and Aunjhar.

Works proposed.

205. A conference of five officers of the civil department and five of the Irrigation branch, was held at Jhansi to discuss the financial aspects of the new Bundelkhand irrigation projects. Various schemes are now under revision in accordance with the general policy decided upon. An active policy in connection with protection works in Bundelkhand was also pursued during

the year, and five survey parties were employed in working out plans and estimates for *bandhis* which can at any moment be constructed during a famine. The passage into law of the United Provinces Private Irrigation Works Bill will enable a large number of these works to be carried out in future at the instance of zamindars. Sanctioned estimates are in existence to the amount of nearly Rs. 24 lakhs for big tanks at present under construction, but progress on these has been slow on account of the great difficulty in procuring labour, and the abnormal rise in wages. A third reservoir in the bed of the Betwa river at Kaprar, to supplement the *kharif* supplies in the Betwa canal, has been under contemplation, and it is expected that the estimate will be sanctioned during the current year. A start was made on the reclamation of ravines in the Jalaun district, in conjunction with the Agricultural department, and a couple of such reclamation works are now in progress. The projects proposed in connection with the Sarda canal were referred to last year. The preliminary arrangements for the Sarda-Kichha feeder have been put in hand and actual construction is being started this cold weather. The detailed project for the Oudh canal is under preparation.

Surveys.

206. An officer was placed on special duty at the request of the Government of India to carry out further investigations into water power sites for hydro-electric purposes. A fairly considerable amount of ground was covered before the year closed, comprising the Belan river and its tributaries in the Mirzapur district and the Karamnassa and Chandraprabha rivers in the Benares State. Four sites have been selected in these tracts with considerable power possibilities. Three survey parties are also engaged in prospecting for water power in the Rewah State and in the Naini Tal and Almora districts.

Financial results.

207. The gross revenue from all classes of works amounted to Rs. 1,48,09,739, an increase of Rs. 11,91,325 over the gross revenue of the previous year. The net revenue rose from Rs. 97,21,348 to Rs. 1,06,52,815, and the net profits amounted to Rs. 65,22,381 as against Rs. 55,75,033 during 1918-19. There was a loss on all protective works, the loss in net revenue sustained under this head, omitting interest charges, being Rs. 60,297 as compared with a gain of Rs. 1,60,858 in 1918-19. On productive works and those of a minor category there were increases in net revenue of Rs. 10,53,342 and Rs. 99,280 respectively. Working expenses rose on protective and productive works by Rs. 98,734 and Rs. 2,02,208 respectively, while in the case of minor works Rs. 41,084 less were spent as compared with the previous year. The gain on the working of productive canals was 7·03 per cent. on the capital outlay of Rs. 10,21,66,078. The terms of the provincial contract in regard to irrigation revenues, entered into with effect from the 1st April, 1909, remained unchanged. This is the seventh year in succession that the net revenue from major productive works exceeded the guaranteed amount of Rs. 55½ lakhs. The net credit to Provincial revenues from the operations of the canals under this contract amounted to over Rs. 48 lakhs after deduction of interest charges.

Assessments.

208. The gross revenue (canal rates, etc.) assessed rose from Rs. 144·36 to Rs. 148·23 lakhs. Despite the fact that the area irrigated during the year was less than that of 1918-19 the total occupier's rate assessed was more than six lakhs of rupees over the previous year's figure. The increase in the revenue assessed under this head is chiefly due to the "Bila Kiari" rates imposed.

Mileage of canals.

209. The total length of channels at the close of the year was 16,133 miles or 64 miles more than last year. As last year, the increase was mainly on the Ghagar canal.

36—Irrigation.

Irrigated area.

210. Seasonal conditions were normal and although the rainfall was scanty both before and after the monsoon, the supplies in the canals were generally adequate to meet all requirements. The winter rains were late, but owing to the heavy monsoon rainfall there was ample moisture in the soil to admit in many places of *rabi* sowings without recourse to canal water.

From December, however, the demand on canals was heavy. The total area irrigated by means of canals fell short of that of the previous year by 221,017 acres, the more favourable rainfall being responsible for the decline.

Crops irrigated.

211. The total value of the crops irrigated was Rs. 28·66 crores as compared with Rs. 25·85 crores in the previous year. The areas irrigated show a decrease under all crops both for *kharif* and *rabi* except cotton in the *kharif* and gram in the *rabi*. The area of the former rose from 365,438 acres to 474,506 acres, and of the latter from 63,277 to 84,515 acres.

CHAPTER V.—REVENUE AND FINANCE.

(*a*).—IMPERIAL REVENUE AND FINANCE.

[*For details see the accounts for the year* 1919-20 *and the tables in Part IV (a) and (b) Statistics of British India*].

37—Gross revenue.

212. The imperial share of the gross revenue realized amounted to Rs. 5,60,09,601 as compared with Rs. 4,38,30,457 in the year 1918-19.

38—Land revenue.

213. The gross land revenue realized was Rs. 6,63,39,689, of which the imperial share was Rs. 3,99,38,421. The corresponding figures for the previous year were Rs. 5,72,98,273 and Rs. 3,43,45,294 respectively.

39—Canal revenue.

214. The gross direct revenue accruing from canals rose from Rs. 1,15,09,261 in 1918-19 to Rs. 1,26,80,966.

40—Excise.

[*For details see the annual report on the administration of excerise for the year ending* 31*st March*, 1920, *and the tables under the head* '*Excise*,' *Part IV—(b) Statisics of British India.*]

Receipts.

215. The year was again one in which conflicting economic factors were apparent. Agriculturally the year witnessed an almost complete recovery from the poor crops and threatening famine of the year before. On the other hand the high prices of foodgrains and all other necessaries continued to press heavily on most sections of the public, though the labouring and cultivating classes found compensation in a general rise in wages and the high market rates for agricultural produce, while the trading class also generally benefited. In contrast with the previous year the marriage season of 1919 was not auspicious. On the whole, however, conditions were favourable and receipts rose again by over 10 per cent.. every excisable commodity contributing to this result. This increase, which was due both to the increased rates of duty and to the higher prices obtained for licences, was at the same time accompanied by a decrease in consumption in every commodity except *ganja*.

Collections.

216. Of the total demand of Rs. 174·9 lakhs, Rs. 174·25 lakhs or 99·6 per cent. were collected. Rupees 10,843 were remitted as irrecoverable, leaving an outstanding balance of Rs. 89,879. Of this, Rs. 41,815 have been recovered since the close of the year.

Country spirit.

217. The total receipts from country spirit rose by 7·1 per cent., from Rs. 100·47 to Rs. 107·66 lakhs. There was a further rise in the incidence of total revenue per proof gallon from Rs. 6-11-8 to Rs. 9-8-5, of which Rs. 5-12-4 are duty and Rs. 3-12-1 are vend fees. Consumption fell from 1,468,020 to

1,115,934 proof gallons, a decrease of 23·9 per cent. In considering the year's consumption, allowance must be made for the overstocking at the last quarter of the year preceding, in order to avoid the enhanced still-head duty from the 1st April, 1919. This is shown particularly in the quarterly figures of consumption, the decrease for the first quarter while the overstock was being worked off being 39·9 per cent. and that for the last quarter of the year being only 9·4 per cent. The decrease generally is attributed to the drain on the purchasing power of consumers, due to the rise in prices of all the necessaries of life, which left less money to spend on the luxury of liquor, and the fact that the price of liquor itself rose, partly in sympathy with the general state of the market and partly as a result of increased licence fees and enhanced duty. Only four districts showed an increased consumption, namely, Muzaffarnagar, Aligarh, Bahraich, and Dehra Dun, and in all these cases the increase was small. The decrease is particularly marked in the Oudh districts. In Lucknow consumption went down by 34·6 per cent., following on a rise of 17 per cent. in the previous year. In the Oudh districts, where habitual consumers of liquor are comparatively few, the effect of a bad marriage season on the figures is very striking. On the commencement of the year the prevailing rate of duty became Rs. 6-4-0, certain important urban areas being taxed Rs. 7-8-0, while taxation in backward areas ranged from Rs. 4-8-0 to Re. 1 per proof gallon. In spite of this large rise in taxation there was an increase of nearly 15 per cent. in licence fees and of 3 per cent. in duty. The increase in licence fees was most marked in the cities, the rise being as much as 68 per cent. in Meerut. Income from duty was affected by the fall in consumption and also by the fact that throughout the year allowances had to be made to the distillers on account of the high costs of production. This caused a diminution of no less than Rs. 3,58,596, and but for it the percentage of increase on last year's income from duty would be 9 per cent. instead of 3 per cent. The number of public distilleries remained the same, namely, seven, and the four privately-owned distilleries together with the Government distillery at Saharanpur and the Nowgong distillery continued to supply the 39 districts, under the contract system during the year. The extension of the contract system of supply to the whole of the province from 1st April, 1921 will result in the elimination of the public distilleries from the provincial system of country spirit supply from that date. The number of retail country liquor shops, including outstills, fell from 4,082 to 3,999. The surcharge fixed fee system in the Muzaffarnagar district is being continued with certain modifications. It is noteworthy that, in spite of this system which is supposed to exercise a check on consumption, the Muzaffarnagar district shows a small increase in a year when there was almost universal decrease. Opinions vary as to the merits of the system, but the Excise Commissioner hopes that after more careful working and observation during the current year, it may be possible to show good results.

Contract supply system.

218. The number of districts under the contract system remained the same, namely, 39. Two non-contract warehouses were opened at Bara and Meja in the Allahabad district in the portions of the district converted from outstills to the distillery system.

Outstill areas.

219. The inclusion within the ordinary distillery system of the Meja and Bara tahsils of the Allahabad district reduced the income from outstills from Rs. 1,66,138 to Rs. 1,53,073. Increases occurred in the Gorakhpur, Almora, and Garhwal districts while there were decreases in the Pilibhit, Mirzapur, Gonda, and Bahraich districts. The number of outstills has been reduced from 214 to 182.

Hemp drugs.

220. Licence fees on hemp drugs rose from Rs. 16·18 to Rs. 18·51 lakhs and the income from duty from Rs. 12·05 to Rs. 15·29 lakhs. The income both from fees and duty constitutes a record, the total revenue increasing from Rs. 28·23 to Rs. 33·80 lakhs. The consumption of all forms of hemp drugs fell from 297,572 seers to 249,341 seers. The fall is greatest in the case of *bhang*, the most popular form of the drug. Here the fall was 19·2 per cent., *charas* fell 9·8 per cent. while *ganja* alone shows a small rise of 2·1 per cent. The increase in income took place in spite of large enhancements of duty in the case of all three drugs. It may be fairly claimed that

these increases have checked any tendency to larger consumption. At the same time the continued rise in licence fees shows that even heavier taxation would be justified.

Opium.

221. The total revenue from opium rose from Rs. 14·34 to Rs. 17·87 lakhs or 24·6 per cent. Licence fees rose from Rs. 5·89 to Rs. 6·45 lakhs. The number of shops was reduced from 1,031 to 1,024 and consumption fell from 47,066 to 40,843 seers. The average cost per seer to the retail vendor, i.e. issue price *plus* licence fees, rose from Rs. 44-13-10 to Rs. 58-2-9. The uniform issue price of Rs. 40 per seer for all districts was in force throughout the year. Only two districts showed increases in consumption—Lucknow and Saharanpur; decreases occurred chiefly in Fatehpur, Shahjahanpur, Bareilly, and Meerut. Various reasons are given for the decreases in these places. In Shahjahanpur it is ascribed to the introduction of the surcharge instead of licence fees and the selection of vendors, which has checked smuggling. In Fatehpur restrictions of issues as a measure against suspected smuggling is reported to be the cause. Issues were restricted according to the estimated local requirements in the same districts as last year, and the special measures, referred to in previous reports, of selection of vendors, substitution for the auction of licence fees, a surcharge per seer, and fixation of maximum and minimum retail prices in certain areas have been continued with apparent success. The whole question is still under examination.

Tari and sendhi.

222. Licence fees of *tari* rose from Rs. 3·90 to Rs. 4·35 lakhs. The number of shops was reduced from 2,515 to 2,473. At present the farm system of vend is generally adopted, but the substitution of a shop-to-shop system is under contemplation. From the 1st October, 1920 two tahsils of the Gorakhpur district were brought under the tree tax system. One advantage to be gained from this charge will be the acquisition of useful statistics which the issue of tapping-permits and the close study of the trade will facilitate.

Foreign liquor.

223. There was a large increase of 206 in the number of licences for the sale of foreign liquor, the largest increase being from 176 to 302 for temporary licences, but there was only a small increase of Rs. 3,763 in the licence fees. There was a fall in the consumption of locally-manufactured foreign liquor of less than 1 per cent. which corresponds with a fall in consumption of 18,596 L. P. gallons. There was, however, a considerable increase in the amount of rum and rectified spirit issued and the decrease falls only on denatured spirit. Duty on malt liquor continued to fall and amounted to Rs. 20,237 as compared with Rs. 57,318 in the previous year. The manufacture of beer fell from 203,799 to 80,692 gallons, the slight impetus received by the trade last year from the disappearance of imported beer having died away with the resumption of imports from Europe.

Prosecutions.

224. There was a decrease in the total number of prosecutions under the Excise Act from 1,341 to 1,114. The decrease is largest under illicit distillation, cases of which fell from 527 to 338. Increases are found only under offences relating to cocaine and hemp drugs. The failure of the *mahua* crop resulted in there being much less illicit distillation than usual, and the number of cases fell from 218 to 103 in Allahabad, which, as usual, heads the list. Prosecutions under the cocaine sections of the Excise Act increased from 11 to 45, which is attributed to increased facilities for the introduction of the drug from Europe since the declaration of Peace. Opium cases increased from 347 to 381, 309 of these being smuggling cases. Detailed figures of the seizures made reveal an enormous increase in the amount of Afghan opium and a very large decrease in the amount of Malwa opium seized. Convictions for drunkenness decreased from 1,802 to 1,714. There was a large increase in cantonments and a falling-off in municipalities. Of the latter, Allahabad, Benares, and Cawnpore continue to have the worst record in the order named.

General.

225. The salient features of the year were reduced consumption and increased revenue. It is satisfactory that the policy of increasing taxation and reducing facilities for the retail sale of liquor has worked with such marked success. The policy can advantageously be pursued still further, and proposals to this effect are at present under consideration. The exceptionally high price of raw material, which was marked in the previous year,

continued on the whole, though in a lesser degree, throughout the year under review. High rates for molasses prevailed during the greater part of the year and distillers were equally unfortunate as regards *mahua*. The result was that contract suppliers could not meet their obligations at the rates originally contracted for and Government had to help them both by direct subventions and by increasing the price of liquor.

41—Stamps.

[*For details see the annual reports on the stamp returns for the year ending 31st March, 1920 and the tables under the head "Stamps," Part IV (b), Statistics of British India.*]

Receipts and charges.

226. Gross receipts under the Stamp and Court Fees Acts increased from Rs. 125·93 to Rs. 146·14 lakhs, a record figure, which more than compensates for the decline in 1918-19 and brings up the average triennial growth in the stamp revenue to its normal figure of Rs. 10 lakhs. Charges increased from Rs. 3·19 to Rs. 3·75 lakhs.

Judicial stamps.

227. The gross income from judicial stamps increased from Rs. 97·55 to Rs. 110·67 lakhs. Increases occurred under all heads, i.e. sale of court-fee stamps, sale of stamps for copies, and the sale of plain paper.

Non-judicial stamps.

228. There was again a rise in the value of non-judicial stamps sold from Rs. 28·38 to Rs. 35·46 lakhs. All heads show an increase.

Prosecutions.

229. Prosecutions increased from 924 to 1,034. Cases of insufficiently stamped or unstamped documents rose from 2,341 to 3,101, and the sum realized in duty or penalty from Rs. 42,331 to Rs. 49,502.

42—Assessed Taxes.

[*For details see the annual income-tax returns of the province for the year ending 31st March, 1920 and the tables under the head 'Income-Tax,' (b)—Statistics of British India.*]

Income-tax.

230. Income-tax is the only directly assessed tax in the provinces. In the last two years the procedure of assessment has been entirely revised, the minimum income assessable to the tax has been raised from Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 2,000 and a special staff has been appointed. In 1917-18 before the introduction of the new system the income was Rs. 46·52 lakhs: in the following year, in which while the new method of procedure was followed, the change in the taxable limit had not come into effect, the income rose to Rs. 66·03 lakhs; in 1919-20, with the elimination of all assessees whose income was below Rs. 2,000 or more than half the total number the preliminary assessments fell to Rs. 59·25 lakhs. The total demand for the past year including arrears was Rs. 62·44 lakhs, and total collections including excess and advance collections amounted to Rs. 58·15 lakhs.

A reduction in the number of processes issued from 9,694 to 4,992, and of penalties levied from Rs. 11,443 to Rs. 7,247 is largely due to the reduction in the number of assessees. Expenditure increased with the continued expansion of staff from Rs. 1,82,310 to Rs. 2,49,804.

43—Any other taxes levied for imperial purposes.

231. The yield from customs, the whole of which is credited to the Imperial Exchequer, was Rs. 5,33,880 as compared with Rs. 4,40,329 in the previous year. Excise duty on cotton manufactures is the only customs duty levied in these provinces.

44—Forests.

232. The receipts from forests are no longer shared between the Imperial and Provincial revenues, but credited entirely to the latter.

45—Provincial revenues.

(For details see the Government resolution on the provincial revenues of 1919-20.)

Financial position.

233. Despite the unfavourable agricultural outlook due to the failure of the 1918 monsoon and the difficulty of forecasting the effect of the cessation of war conditions upon certain heads of revenue and upon expenditure the budget for the year allowed for a full revenue in consideration of the general prosperity which prevailed. The restrictions against use of the balances which had existed during the war were partially removed, especially in the direction of expenditure on objects which, though not immediately remunerative, would secure an improved and not long-deferred return. The budget accordingly provided for an opening balance of Rs. 254·16 lakhs, an income of Rs. 813·03 lakhs, an expenditure of Rs. 861·10 lakhs, and a closing balance of Rs. 206·09 lakhs. The actual opening balance was Rs. 252·56 lakhs, receipts exceeded anticipations by Rs. 13·61 lakhs, while expenditure fell short of the estimate by Rs. 4·34 lakhs. Against an anticipated deficit of Rs. 48·07 lakhs on the year's working the actual figure was Rs. 30·12 lakhs. The general results of the year's transactions as compared with those of the previous year are shown below :—

	1918-19.	1919-20.	Difference.
	Lakhs.	Lakhs.	Lakhs.
Opening balance ...	245·24	252·56	+7·32
Receipts	759·97	826·64	+66·67
Charges	752·65	856·76	+104·11
Closing balance ...	252·56	222·44	—30·12

There was no change in the provincial form of accounts. A small modification took place in the terms of the provincial settlement relating to railway police charges.

Receipts.

234. The larger variations in income are tabulated below :—

	Increase.	Decrease.
	Lakhs.	Lakhs.
Jail receipts	...	2·46
Transfer between Imperial and Provincial	...	22·47
Land Revenue	34·36	...
Irrigation	12·94	...
Excise	11·01	...
Stamps	10·08	...
Interest	8·64	...
Forest	8·35	...
Income-tax	1·44	...

The reduction in jail receipts was due to the cessation of the manufacture of blankets for military requirements. There was a large increase in the previous year under the head of "Transfer" which was due to special causes, in particular to an assignment of Rs. 21·40 lakhs required to bring up the provincial share of the divisible income under land revenue to the guaranteed figure. If all such items are eliminated an actual increase remains to be explained, and this is covered to a large extent by an assignment of Rs. 5·55 lakhs to compensate provincial revenues for the loss in Income-tax receipts owing to the Excess Profits Duty and the raising of the minimum assessable income to Rs. 2,000.

The increase under Land Revenue is due partly to an increase in the demand following re-settlements, but in the main to collections of revenue which had been suspended in the previous year. More favourable conditions were responsible for the increase under Irrigation and enhancements of duty for the Excise increase. A revival of litigation on the cessation of hostilities led to better Stamp returns, and improved assessment to better figures under Income-tax. The increase under Interest is due to considerable realizations of agricultural advances made in previous years; while in the main the larger receipts from Forests were due to improved sales of timber.

Expenditure.

235. The more important variations in provincial expenditure are noted below:—

	Increase. Lakhs.	Decrease. Lakhs.
Land Revenue	...	2·88
Miscellaneous	...	2·46
Education	28·40	...
Public Works	21·37	...
Police	9·59	...
Jails	6·91	...
Courts of Law	5·32	...
Stationery and Printing	3·51	...
Sanitation	3·36	...
Irrigation	3·12	...
Medical	2·85	...
Interest	2·38	...

The decrease under both Land Revenue and Miscellaneous is unreal, since the figures in the previous year were abnormal and due to special causes, in the one case to charges on account of the acquisition of land for soldiers, and in the other to special outlay on a publicity campaign, peace celebrations, and cloth transactions undertaken to assist the poorer classes. The large increase under Education is due to improvement of pay and to the expansion and encouragement of all forms of education. Under all heads a large proportion of the increase is to be attributed to the general rise in prices necessitating a revision of wages. Other causes also operated, but their influence was comparatively insignificant. Thus the increase under Jails is distributed under dietary charges, clothing, medicine, miscellaneous, and pay. In the case of pay the increase is due both to the return of officers from military service and also to their rates of pay having been revised.

Provincial budget.

236. The general results of the year's transactions as compared with the original budget estimates were as follows:—

	Budget. Lakhs.	Accounts. Lakhs.	Difference. Lakhs.
Opening balance	254·16	252·56	—1·60
Receipts	813·03	826·64	+13·61
Charges	861·10	856·76	—4·34
Balance	206·09	222·44	+16·35

For the purpose of analysing the more striking variations on both sides of the account, it is convenient to exclude the charges due to certain transactions undertaken during the course of the year which were not contemplated when the budget was framed. Most of these were undertaken at the instance of the Government of India, who gave assignments under the transfer head to cover the necessary expenditure. Such assignments totalled Rs. 10·38 lakhs, but part of this was not utilized during the year and the actual expenditure from such assignments may be taken at 8 lakhs. As regards receipts, however, this leaves an increase of only Rs. 3·23 lakhs to be accounted for. This improvement is made up of increases aggregating Rs. 46·10 lakhs, counterbalanced by reductions amounting to Rs. 42·87 lakhs. Forests and Excise alone account almost completely for the reduction, the receipts obtained from these sources being Rs. 25·28 and Rs. 16·42 lakhs respectively less than the budget estimate. As regards Excise, the effect of the higher rates of duty on consumption was greater than originally anticipated, while the drop under Forests is explained chiefly by the delay in procuring plant and machinery for the sawmill and turnery at Bareilly and generally to the presence in the budget of many uncertain items connected with the Utilization Circle, the proceedings of which do not lend themselves easily to ordinary budget procedure. To the gross increase of Rs. 46·10 lakhs, Irrigation with an increase of 18·44 lakhs, Stamps and

Registration with Rs. 11·63 lakhs, Income-tax with Rs. 7·11 lakhs, and Land Revenue with Rs. 2·89 lakhs were the largest contributors. In most of these cases the explanations already given for the increase over the figures of the previous year account for the increase over the budget estimates.

Nominally, as already shown, there was a decrease in expenditure as compared with the budget estimate; in reality, if certain items are excluded there was a considerable increase. In the budget Rs. 22·48 lakhs were allowed as famine charges, whereas the actual expenditure was only Rs. 1·91 lakhs. On the other hand, as already noted, there was an expenditure of Rs. 8 lakhs owing to assignments received from the Government of India, which was not originally contemplated. But for this the nominal decrease would have appeared as Rs. 12·34 lakhs. Forest charges were less by some Rs. 5 lakhs than the estimate, due to delay in the delivery of plant and machinery. Pensionary charges fell short of the budget figure by Rs. 1·04 lakhs, and there was a reduction of Rs. 4·27 lakhs under the Miscellaneous head. Increases occurred of varying amounts under most heads, chiefly for the reasons already adduced, namely, a larger outlay on salaries and the continuance of high prices. An increase of Rs. 12 lakhs under Public Works is attributed chiefly to acquisitions of property and a larger outlay on buildings.

46—Local Revenues.

(For details see the report on Local Funds for the year 1919-20 *and the annual report on the working of the district boards for the year ending* 31*st March,* 1920.*)*

237. The opening balance of excluded local funds was Rs. 49·19. Receipts amounted to Rs. 187·56 lakhs and expenditure to Rs. 168·83 lakhs as compared with Rs. 165·75 and Rs. 169·58 lakhs, respectively, in 1918-19, leaving a closing balance of Rs. 67·92 lakhs. Each class of fund was solvent. The finances of the district boards, which form by far the most important item, have been dealt with in Chapter III of this report. The difference shown above between the figures for the year under review and those for the previous year are mainly the result of the variations in the district board funds. The other chief heads were the cantonment, town and dispensary funds. The cantonment fund opened with a balance of Rs. 2·52 lakhs, received Rs. 13·15 lakhs, and expended Rs. 12·81 lakhs. The corresponding figures for the town and bazar funds were Rs. 2·82, Rs. 5·83, and Rs. 5·60 lakhs respectively. The dispensary fund started with a balance of Rs. 4,751, received Rs. 9,864 and expended Rs. 10,303. The number of towns under the operation of Act II of 1914 was 279 as compared with 277 last year.

47—Municipal Fund.

(For details see the annual review of municipal administration for the year ending 31*st March,* 1920.*)*

238. The aggregate balance of the municipalities of the province at the close of the previous year was Rs. 28·76 lakhs. There was, however, a reduction in the opening balance of the year under review due to the exclusion of uncashed cheques which were included in the balance at the end of last year. Receipts and expenditure during the year, including loans and deposits, totalled Rs. 118·84 and Rs. 117·55 lakhs, respectively, and the actual closing balance was Rs. 29·71 lakhs. The income and expenditure of the 49 notified areas in the United Provinces, excluding the opening balance, amounted to Rs. 4·81 and Rs. 4·74 lakhs as compared with Rs. 5·47 and Rs. 5·28 lakhs, respectively, in the preceding year. Their closing balance rose from Rs. 1·85 to Rs. 1·95 lakhs.

CHAPTER VI.—VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICES.

48—Details of Census.

(See under "Details of the last census." Chapter I of the report for 1911.)

49—Births and deaths.

(For details see the annual report of the Sanitary Commissioner for the year ending 31st December, 1919, and the tables under the head 'Vital Statistics' Part V—Statistics of British India.)

Births.

239. The total number of births registered during the year was 1,516,497 as compared with 1,867,844 in the preceding year and the rate fell from 39·89 to 32·39. This is the second lowest birth-rate on record. In a large measure it is undoubtedly the after-effect of the very high death-rate in the previous year. Unusually bad economic conditions and the absence from home of a large number of men on military duty are two other important causes. The rate was lowest in the first part of the year and improved considerably in the second half, especially in the last three months, November being actually the most prolific month. The proportion of male to female births was 110·44 : 100, showing a slight increase over the past year. Twenty-three districts show a birth-rate above and 25 below the provincial average. Of the districts showing the highest birth-rates, Agra comes first with 39·48, followed by Bijnor, Almora, and Jhansi. The lowest birth rate was recorded in Dehra Dun, namely, 19·77. Naini Tal and Banda were the next two lowest districts on the list. The municipal birth-rate fell from 41·75 to 40·70 which, as compared with the provincial fall, may be considered fairly satisfactory. In 40 municipalities the birth rate was higher than the provincial municipal average. Firozabad again headed the list with a rate of 69·34, while Mussoorie is again at the bottom of the list with a rate of 8·09. Other districts which returned a low rate were Azamgarh, Lakhimpur, and Mainpuri. Both in Lakhimpur and Mainpuri the low rate is attributed in part to defective registration. In 49 notified areas 13,030 births were registered, giving a birth-rate of 37·38 against 14,457 and 41·47, respectively, in the same areas in 1918.

Deaths.

240. The total number of deaths registered during the year amounted to 1,951,662 as compared with 3,856,762 in 1918, showing a decrease of 1,905,100. The rate per thousand was 41·69 as compared with 82·37 in 1918 and 42·66, the average for the preceding five years. The rate, however, is still high and this is due to the prevalence of the epidemic of influenza during the early months of the year and also to cholera and fever. The highest mortality occurred in the Bahraich district with a death-rate of 58·52. Hamirpur, Sitapur, Fatehpur, and Basti come next on the list. Cholera and fever were the common causes of high mortality in all these districts. The number of deaths exceeded that of births in 40 districts. The total number of deaths recorded in municipal areas was 126,152 and the death rate 42·99 against 236,419 and 80·94, respectively, in the preceding year. The highest death rate occurred in Brindaban with 88·98, followed by Balrampur, Sikandra Rao, Mau, Cawnpore, and Firozabad. Thirty-seven municipalities returned death-rates in excess of birth-rates. In 49 notified areas 12,226 deaths were recorded against 24,938 in the same areas in the preceding year, the rates being 35·07 and 71·54 respectively. Kosi, which occupied the second position on the list of the notified areas, returning high death-rates last year, heads the list this year with a rate of 73·73. The month of January with a rate of 7·43 per thousand stands out prominently as the most unhealthy month of the year and the month in which influenza caused the greatest mortality. The months of February, October, November, and December were also unhealthy with death rates of between 3 and 4 per thousand. The number of deaths among males was 1,017,335 and among females 934,327 against 2,006,883 and 1,849,879, respectively, in 1918. As in the previous year, the total mortality was higher among males than females, but more females died between the ages of 10 and 40.

The rate of infantile mortality fell from 303·5 to 253·3; though a considerable improvement on the rate of 1918, it has only been exceeded twice during the last 12 years. The percentage of deaths from tetanus to total infantile mortality slightly rose, but the figures returned cannot be relied upon and it is probable that the real percentage is less than reported. Efforts for the reduction of infantile mortality are being continued and a scheme for the training of indigenous *dais* was started at six centres, Lucknow, Benares, Cawnpore, Allahabad, Bareilly, and Fyzabad. With the exception of Bareilly, however, the reports received from the Heath Officers concerned on the working of the scheme are not encouraging. Fatehpur heads the list of districts showing high mortality among infants with a rate of 360·15 per thousand of births. Cawnpore, Hamirpur, Etawah, Unao, and Sultanpur come next. Garhwal, Almora, and Ballia show the lowest mortality. Among municipalites, the worst record is reported from Jalesar, with a death-rate of 501·47 per 1,000 of births. Cawnpore, Brindaban and Sikandra Rao come next on the list.

Registration of Vital statistics.

241. The vaccination staff tested 205,671 more entries than in the preceding year. The percentage of omissions discovered in birth entries was ·37 and in death entries ·22 as compared with ·36 and ·31, respectively, in 1918. Local authorities tested 567,464 entries as compared with 758,231 in 1918. The percentage of omissions discovered by them in birth registration was 3·48 and in death registration 2·70 as against 2·82 and 3·31, respectively in the preceding year. The number of persons fined for neglect in compliance with registration rules rose from 2,395 to 2,553.

Cholera.

242. The mortality from cholera was 81,365 as against 119,746 in the previous year, the corresponding rates being 1·74 and 2·56, respectively. As last year, the minimum mortality occurred in February, when only 31 deaths were recorded. The highest mortality occurred in April, May, and June, being 6,786, 15,967, and 21,241 in these months, respectively. In the second half of the year the mortality declined gradually until December, in which month only 508 deaths occurred. Among districts, the highest mortality from this disease was recorded in Basti with Gorakhpur next on the list. The districts which showed the lowest mortality were Farrukhabad, Mainpuri, Bijnor, Meerut, and Muzaffarnagar. In recent years owing to the necessity for using bleaching powder instead of permanganate of potassium, the efficacy of the cholera scheme has been largely reduced. As permanganate is undoubtedly superior to bleaching powder and is now available, although the price is more than five times the pre-war rate, it has been decided to resume its use, and steps are being taken to obtain a sufficient quantity in the current year.

Small-pox.

243. The mortality from small-pox rose from 2,908 to 10,993 and the death-rate from ·06 to ·23 per mille. The disease was most virulent during the first half of the year and after June declined. All districts were affected, the lowest number of deaths occurring in Kheri. Twelve towns out of 93 were entirely free from the disease, and in another 28 the number of deaths did not exceed 10. The highest death rate occurred in the town of Rae Bareli.

Plague.

244. Plague mortality declined very considerably, the total number of deaths being only 17,240 as compared with 1,74,805 in 1918, the corresponding rates being ·37 and 3·73 per thousand and the quinquennial average 2·20. The rate is the lowest on record and is attributed to the famine conditions which prevailed for the greater part of the year. The rat population varies directly with the available food-supply; it follows that in famine years there is a largely reduced rat population and hence a largely reduced mortality from plague. In the districts with a higher mortality than usual no famine conditions existed. The mortality reached its maximum in March and minimum in July. The three hill districts of the Kumaun division and five other districts were quite free from the disease, while in seven districts the number of deaths did not exceed 5. Ballia, Ghazipur, and Azamgarh returned the highest rates. The number of persons inoculated against plague fell from 100,019 to 26,461, 17,760 inoculations being performed through the agency of travelling dispensaries and the remainder by the ordinary and special medical staff.

Fever.

245. During the year 15,75,632 deaths were registered from fever as against 3,217,678 in 1918, giving death-rates of 33·66 and 68·72 respectively. The quinquennial average was 31·99. The rate, though very much less than in the previous year, has only been exceeded twice during the last 39 years. There can be little doubt that the high rate is due to the influenza epidemic which was widespread in the early part of the year. The highest mortality occurred in January and the lowest in August. The autumnal rise set in in October and continued throughout November. Of districts, Sitapur returned the highest death-rate, followed by Bahraich, Pilibhit, Sultanpur, and Etawah. Districts with a low mortality were Dehra Dun, Ballia and Garhwal. Among towns, Brindaban returned the highest rate, followed by Jalesar. Gangoh, Lucknow, Ramnagar, and Azamgarh show the lowest mortality. The malarial department remained closed during the year and no investigation or demonstration work could be undertaken. Very little progress was made in anti-malarial schemes. The number of three-rupee and five-rupee packets of quinine sold during the year was 2,520 and 371, respectively, as compared with 1,649 and 348 in the previous year.

Relapsing fever was prevalent in an epidemic form in the districts of Meerut, Bijnor, and Garhwal, and in a mild form in the districts of Bulandshahr and Naini Tal. Sporadic cases also occurred in some half a dozen other districts, while the remainder of the province was free from the disease.

Dysentery, diarrrhœa, and respiratory diseases.

246. Deaths from dysentery and diarrhœa totalled 15,331 against 21,266 in 1918, the death-rates being respectively ·33 and ·45. The mortality was highest in August and lowest in February. The high mortality in August is attributed to the prevalence of flies at this season. Garhwal as usual stands first on the list of districts having a high mortality and is followed by Almora, Benares, and Lucknow in the order named. Basti, Sultanpur, and Kheri were the most fortunate districts. Six out of 93 towns returned no deaths at all, and in 13 the number did not exceed 10. Diseases of the respiratory organs claimed 25,768 victims as compared with 32,010 in 1918, the respective rates being ·55 and ·68 and the quinquennial average ·57.

Injuries.

247. The number of deaths from injuries fell from 26,882 to 25,406. Suicides fell from 3,286 to 2,595, 759 occurring among males and 1,836 among females. Hardoi, Shahjahanpur, Azamgarh, Meerut, and Agra returned the greatest number. The number of deaths caused by snakes and wild beasts fell from 6,725 to 5,353, while deaths from rabies rose from 227 to 301.

Deaths from other causes.

248. Deaths from other causes fell from 261,467 to 199,927. Deaths from measles are included under this head and numbered 22,820 in 1919 against 9,753 in 1918.

50—Emigration and Immigration.

(For details see the annual report on the working in the United Provinces of the Assam Labour and Emigration Act VI of 1901, for the year ending the 30th June, 1920; the annual report on emigration from the port of Calcutta to British and Foreign Colonies for 1919; and the tables under the head "Emigration," Part V—Statistics of British India.)

Foreign emigration.

249. Owing to the prohibition of indentured emigration to the colonies, no labourers were despatched to any of the colonies during the year under report. A certain number of tailors were, however, registered for despatch to Bangkok and despatched there together with others who were registered in 1918, but could not embark then for want of a steamer. The number of emigrants who returned to India was 1,180 as compared with 452 in 1918, and the average savings brought by them amounted to Rs. 198 as compared with Rs. 173 per emigrant in that year. There was a decrease in the average remittances per resident Indian immigrant in respect of all the colonies except Demerara, Trinidad, and Mauritius. The average was as usual highest in the case of the Colony of Natal. The total amount of savings of the resident Indian immigrants increased in the case

of Jamaica and Mauritius and decreased in the case of Trinidad, Natal, and Fiji. The decrease is attributed to the high cost of living arising out of the war.

250. Recruiting under Chapter IV of the Assam Labour and Emigration Act, VI of 1901, was carried on as last year in 19 districts. The total number of coolies recruited decreased from 9,406 to 4,431. The decrease is attributed chiefly to the better condition of the labouring classes owing to fair wages and better crops and also to fewer garden sardars being employed for recruiting. The number of Nepalese subjects recruited from the Gorakhpur district rose from 785 to 1,590. This is attributed to the cessation of the war. As usual, Gorakhpur, Basti, and Mirzapur supplied by far the greater number of the recruits. No case of infringement of the rules was observed. Inland emigration.

251. No statistics are available. Immigration.

51—Medical relief.

(For details see the annual report on the administration of civil hospitals for the year ending 31st December, 1919, and the tables under the head "Hospitals," Part V—Statistics of British India.)

252. The number of dispensaries increased during the year from 645 to 647. Eight new dispensaries were opened and six were closed. Of the latter, four were private aided institutions, one a local fund institution, and the sixth, the Army Clothing Factory dispensary at Shahjahanpur, was transferred from the control of the Civil Surgeon to the Military department. Of the new dispensaries opened, mention may be made of a Forest dispensary near Bareilly in connection with the new turpentine distillery and the sawmill and turnery factories established there by the Forest department. Of the others two were female hospitals. The number of patients treated at State public, local fund, and private-aided institutions increased from 5,351,550 to 5,380,877. Attendance at travelling dispensaries increased from 406,427 to 445,873, while attendance at standing dispensaries fell from 4,945,123 to 4,935,004. This is ascribed, in a large measure, to the influenza epidemic. Indoor attendance decreased by 148, while outdoor attendance increased by 29,475. The number of travelling dispensaries remained at 110. They continued to do good work and, as the figures show, are becoming popular. Dispensaries.

253. The total income of the hospitals and dispensaries was Rs. 20,49,384 as compared with 19,20,308 in 1918. Expenditure rose from Rs. 17,49,353 to Rs. 18,55,309, the closing balance at the end of the year being Rs. 1,94,075 as against an opening balance of Rs. 2,65,854. Local fund contributions rose from Rs. 8,47,835 to Rs. 9,49,072 and municipal contributions from Rs. 1,02,776 to Rs. 1,22,231. Subscriptions from Europeans rose from Rs. 28,657 to Rs. 29,935, and those from Indians from Rs. 1,16,284 to Rs. 1,31,589. The cost of European medicines increased from Rs. 2,51,088 to Rs. 2,77,664 and expenditure on bazar medicines from Rs. 31,481 to Rs. 35,284. Diet charges also increased from Rs. 1,07,945 to Rs. 1,36,057. The invested capital at the close of the year was Rs. 17,05,653 against an opening balance of Rs. 16,93,858. Financial.

254. The number of students on the rolls of King George's Medical College at the close of the year was 140 against 128 in 1918. The results of the University Examinations were again extremely creditable. Twenty-six students out of 34 passed the first M.B., B.S. examination. Twenty-three out of 24 passed the Final M.B., B.S. Group A examination and 19 out of 21 passed the Final M.B., B.S. Group B examination. General.

The scheme for the re-organization of the Agra Medical School has been held in abeyance since 1916 owing to financial stringency, but there is now every prospect of its soon coming into operation.

The King Edward Sanatorium at Bhowali continued to do good work. One hundred and twenty-five patients were admitted as compared with 130 in the previous year. A large number of applications for admission had to be refused for want of accommodation. The Tuberculosis hospital at Lucknow

continued to do good work, but attendance fell in 1919 as the hospital was closed for more than six months between March and October.

At the close of the year 239 officers belonging to the Medical Department were still on military duty. The absence of these officers undoubtedly retarded progress, but the figures show that, in spite of a depleted staff, the medical institutions of the province have continued to increased in popularity.

52—Sanitation.

(For details see the annual report of the Sanitary Commissioner for the year ending the 31st December, 1919; the annual report of the Sanitary Engineer for the year ending 31st March, 1920; and the tables under the head 'Area, population, and public health' Part V—Statistics of British India.)

Municipalities.

255. The total expenditure on works of a sanitary nature, exclusive of the cost of preparation of projects under the supervision of the Sanitary Engineer amounted to Rs. 15·94 lakhs, as compared with Rs. 15·67 lakhs in the previous year. Of this sum Rs. 6·59 lakhs was spent on original sanitary contribution works and Rs. 9·35 lakhs on the maintenance and repairs of open water-works. Rupees 2·81 lakhs was spent on original water works, Agra taking half a lakh, and Allahabad, Benares, and Cawnpore over a lakh between them. The amount expended on drainage works was Rs. 2·68 lakhs, of which the greater part was spent in Allahabad and Lucknow.

Preliminary projects for the re-organization of the water-supplies of Lucknow and Allahabad have been completed and accepted by the boards concerned. Proposals are now under consideration for financing them. Similar proposals for Benares are in hand. The long-delayed Jhansi water supply project is now nearing completion, as is also the hydro-electric supply project for Aligarh.

Projects amounting to Rs. 16·44 lakhs were finally sanctioned during the year and schemes to the value of Rs. 75·08 lakhs were completed and submitted for sanction, including preliminary estimates to the value of Rs. 45·09 lakhs. Work in hand on projects during the year amounted to Rs. 162 lakhs.

Fairs.

256. The Magh Mela at Allahabad took place from the 13th January to the 14th February and passed off successfully. It was followed in March by a mela called the Maha Barni at which a few cases of imported cholera occurred.

The Dikhauti, Maha Maha Barni, and Somwati festivals at Hardwar all took place at short intervals. There was a certain amount of cholera and small-pox, but timely measures checked its spread.

At the Dadri fair at Ballia, the Sawan Jhula fair at Ajudhya, the Ram Naumi fair at Ajudhya and also at a few other less important fairs some cases of cholera were reported. Other fairs in the provinces passed off without the appearance of any infectious disease.

Sanitary Board.

257. The total amount at the disposal of the Board for expenditure on sanitary works during the year aggregated Rs. 5,29,759. Rupees 4,39,365 were allotted by the Board and grants to the amount of Rs. 2,37,985 were sanctioned by Government. Projects aggregating over Rs. 70 lakhs were administratively approved by the Board, while large schemes for the re-organization of the water-supply in the larger towns of the province were approved and placed on the programme of sanitary works for preparation of projects by the Sanitary Engineer's department.

General.

258. The sanitary classes which had been closed the previous year owing to the strain on the cadre of officers due to the war were re-opened in October 1919. Several proposals for improvements in sanitary service which were kept in abeyance during the war are now under consideration.

53—Vaccination.

(*For details see the annual report on vaccination for the year ending the* 31*st March,* 1920, *and the tables under the head 'Vaccination,' Part V—Statistics of British India.*)

Establishment and charges.

289. The number of assistant superintendents of vaccination remained the same as in the previous year, namely 49, but the number of vaccinators increased by 1. The total expenditure increased from Rs. 2,68,243 to Rs. 2,87,837. This is mainly due to the increased expenditure on the Government Bovine Lymph Dépôt, Patwa Dangar, and the return of Deputy Sanitary Commissioners of the Indian Medical Service from military duty.

Vaccinations.

260. There was a slight increase from 1,420,332 to 1,425,754, in the total number of vaccination operations. Of this total, 1,290,912 were primary and 134,842 re-vaccinations, as compared with 1,273,821 and 146,511, respectively, in the preceding year. The percentage of successful primary vaccinations and re-vaccinations was 96·29 and 65·01, as compared with 97·09 and 65·56 for the last year. The number of persons successfully vaccinated per thousand was much the same as last year, namely 27·84. Among the districts showing an increase in the number of successful primary vaccinations Azamgarh heads the list followed by Allahabad, Aligarh, Agra and Bijnor. Of the districts showing a decline Lucknow, Hamirpur, Banda, Budaun and Bahraich were most conspicuous. The percentage of successful vaccinations in proportion to births shows the best results on record for several years past. The average cost of each successful case of vaccination increased from Re. 0-2-7 to Re. 0-2-8, which is accounted for by the increased expenditure of the department.

Inspections.

261. The total number of vaccinations inspected by the Deputy Sanitary Commissioners and the district superintendents of vaccination decreased from 180,998 to 180,569, which is attributed to the influenza epidemic. The percentage of inspections to the total number vaccinated was 13·60 for primary and 5·18 for re-vaccinations as against 13·50 and 7·14 respectively in 1918. The assistant superintendents and other inspecting officers inspected 551,013 primary vaccinations and 37,878 re-vaccinations as against 534,878 and 36,508 respectively last year. The percentage of cases found successful was 95·22 for primary vaccinations and 55·12 for re-vaccinations as compared with 96·83 and 58·42, respectively, in 1918.

Lymph.

262. The Provincial Bovine Lymph Dépôt at Patwa Dangar in the Naini Tal district issued 94,354 grammes of lymph as against 91,658 grammes in the previous year. The expenditure increased from Rs. 25,297 to Rs. 31,547.

Chapter VII.—INSTRUCTION.

54—General system of education.

(*See page* 81 *of the report for the year* 1911-12.)

55—Education.

(*For details see the quinquennial report on public instruction for the period ending* 31*st March,* 1919, *and the tables under the head "Education," Part VII—Statistics of British India.*)

General.

263. The most notable achievements of the year in the field of education were in connection with University reform, but a substantial advance was made in other directions also, especially in the primary education of boys. This was the first year of the new three years' programme for the expansion of primary education and a very fair start has been made. Especially successful was the effort made to popularize primary education among Muhammadans. Private and aided institutions continued to feel

the pressure of adverse economic conditions to a greater extent than public institutions. The year saw the beginning of a systematic attempt to deal with the problem of educating the children of the depressed classes and the experiments made so far are encouraging. Female education made some progress, chiefly in the sphere of secondary education. The changes brought about in standards of value as a result of the war created a difficult situation and revision of the pay of the educational staff in all classes of institutions became an urgent necessity. High wages and high prices tended to enhance the value of child labour, and but for this the progress made in the expansion of primary education would probably have been greater.

Number of institutions and scholars.

264. The decrease noted last year in the total number of all classes of institutions gave place this year to an increase of 2,222, while the number of scholars under instruction increased by 80,921 from 924,679 to 1,005,600. The increase, however, was wholly in respect of public institutions: for, while they show an increase of 2,487 schools and 83,520 scholars, private institutions return decreases of 265 institutions and 2,599 scholars.

Expenditure.

265. The total expenditure on education from all sources increased by 32 per cent. from Rs. 1·72 to Rs. 2·28 lakhs. Expenditure from provincial revenues shows an increase of 33 per cent. from Rs. 56·90 to Rs. 75·84 lakhs and that from district and municipal funds an increase of 29 per cent. from Rs. 39·10 to Rs. 50·61 lakhs.

University.

266. Interest during the year under report centred in the discussions which took place on the question of University reform. As soon as the Calcutta University Commission's report was received, two strong committees were appointed: one to consider a scheme for the constitution of a University at Lucknow, the other to consider measures for the establishment of a teaching University at Allahabad and the creation of a Board to control High school and Intermediate education. The first committee met in November, 1919, and resolved unanimously that a unitary teaching University should be established in Lucknow; the second committee met later and resolved:—

(1) that the ultimate aim should be to establish at Allahabad and other centres unitary teaching Universities similar in type to that proposed for the Lucknow University, and

(2) that pending the realization of that aim and as a progressive step towards it the Allahabad University should perform a double function, namely—

(*a*) in regard to Allahabad it should become a teaching University; and

(*b*) in regard to the Mufassil it should continue to associate with itself existing affiliated colleges outside the limits of Allahabad.

Both committees appointed a number of sub-committees to examine in detail the organization and changes necessary to give effect to these far-reaching proposals, and rapid progress has been made with the scheme for the Lucknow University. The reports of the Allahabad Sub-Committees were placed before the original committee soon after the close of the year and the recommendations of that committee have since been referred to a Sub-Committee of the Senate.

The Professor of Economics was absent on leave for the greater part of the year and in the Department of History the Professor was absent on deputation to the Government of India and no public lectures on this subject were in consequence given. Professor Rushbrook-Williams, O.B.E., has now resigned his appointment as Professor of Modern Indian History.

Of the 3,307 matriculation candidates at Allahabad 1,101 passed as compared with 1,370 out of 3,913 last year. In the Intermediate examination 805 passed out of 1,981 as compared with 980 out of 2,198 in the previous year. The results of the other chief University examinations were as follows:—For the B.A. 566 passed out of 1,653; for the Previous LL.B. 257 out 539; for the Final LL.B. 275 out of 506; and for the B.Sc. 116 out

of 211. There was again a decline in the total number of candidates from 9,612 to 8,887.

The total income of the University for the year ending 31st December, 1919 was Rs. 3,66,768 against Rs. 3,23,505 in 1918 and the total expenditure Rs. 3,10,064 against Rs. 3,28,561.

Various important changes were made during the year in the regulations of the University, including the institution of a new degree in the Faculty of Medicine called the degree of "Master of Surgery."

Collegiate education.

267. The number of colleges increased by one owing to the recognition of the D. A.-V. College, Cawnpore. The number of students increased from 4,773 to 5,434. All but a very small number of the members of the staffs of colleges who were on Military duty have now been released and conditions were normal except for the difficulties caused by high prices. The province lost by death the services of the Hon'ble Dr. A. W. Ward, M.A., late Professor of Physics at the Canning College, and Dr. T. K. Laddu, M.A., Ph.D., Professor of Sanskrit at the Queen's College, Benares, while Mr. W. A. J. Archbold, M.A., the late Principal of the Muir Central College, proceeded on leave preparatory to retirement. In aided colleges the year was one of increasing financial difficulty and a scheme which was worked out by the Educational department for assisting the colleges to pay better salaries to their staffs has now been given effect to. Substantial additions were made to the equipment of several colleges, notably in the matter of laboratory accommodation. A new chemistry block was opened at the Agra college and new chemical laboratories at the Meerut and the Canning Colleges. Hostel accommodation remains in need of extension.

The Sanskrit College, Benares, is the only institution classified as an Oriental College. The average enrolment for the year was 338. Oriental schools teaching Arabic and Persian have fallen in number to 296 from 358, while the scholars reading in them have increased from 8,843 to 8,902. The number of schools teaching Sanskrit has again diminished from 454 to 400 and the number of students from 9,282 to 8,341 The number of candidates who appeared at the Benares Sanskrit College examinations increased from 3,978 to 4,079 and the examination results were satisfactory. The number of non-Brahmans appearing for the Sanskrit College examinations is increasing.

A new scheme of examinations in Arabic and Persian could not be introduced in the year under report, but it has now received final sanction and should come into effect in the current year. Various improvements have been effected in the courses of study, but much still remains to be done.

The enrolment of law students shows an increase of 35 against a fall of 235 last year. The Law school at Allahabad, however, shows a decrease of 11 students, which is attributed mainly to the institution of 'day classes' and the restriction placed on graduates of other universities joining the school.

The enrolment at the Medical College, Lucknow, showed a small increase, from 138 to 147. Of these three were women. The number of Muhammadans rose from 5 to 13.

Expenditure on collegiate education now amounts to Rs. 13,20,110 against Rs. 11,74,077 in 1918-19. The cost per scholar has gone up from Rs. 240 per annum to Rs. 244 per annum, of which fees covered 33·8 per cent., public funds 33 and other sources 33·2 per cent.

Secondary education.

268. The number of secondary schools for Indian boys continues to rise and is now 698 against 664 last year. Enrolment rose from 89,037 to 92,395. English high schools have increased in number by 10 to 152, secondary vernacular schools by 26 to 460, while English middle schools have decreased by 2 to 86. The latter decrease is due to the fact that several of these schools have become high schools. Enrolment in English schools has increased by 15 only and is still below that of 1917-18, but in secondary vernacular schools it has increased by 3,343 or 9 per cent. The increase in numbers in secondary vernacular schools is a hopeful sign, showing that these schools have quite recovered from the set-back which occurred when the

length of the course was raised from two to three years. Expenditure on secondary schools for Indian boys rose by Rs. 2,24,722 to Rs. 35,04,216. Fees decreased by Rs. 17,144 and income from other sources increased by Rs. 54,753. The decrease in fees was entirely in English schools and is attributed to the pressure of high prices inducing parents to seek schools for their boys which charge the lowest fees. In all kinds of English schools for Indian boys the average cost per pupil per annum was Rs. 54·1, of which the boy pays Rs. 22·8. In Government English schools the figures are Rs. 61·1 and Rs. 24; in aided English schools Rs. 49·8 and Rs. 23·5.

The number of students who appeared in the School-Leaving Certificate and Matriculation examinations combined was 7,584 against 8,614 last year and the number of passes in the two examinations combined was 3,112 against 4,023. The falling off both as regard candidates and passes is divided fairly evenly between both examinations. A large proportion of the candidates in the Matriculation examination come from other provinces. The number of candidates in the High School Scholarship examination increased from 454 to 476. One hundred and twenty-five scholarships were awarded. Seven district board scholarships lapsed through want of qualified candidates from the districts concerned. The vernacular secondary school retains its reputation for good work and its efficiency is shown in the results of the Vernacular Final examination. Of the 11,456 candidates registered for the examinations, 6,924 passed as against 5,672 out of 10,194 candidates last year. Several schools passed over 80 per cent. of their candidates. Of the 3,431 teachers in Secondary English schools for boys 826 are trained, the number of untrained teachers remaining stationery at 2,605. These figures compare very unfavourably with those of the secondary vernacular schools in which 89 per cent. of the staff is trained. More facilities for the training of teachers for English schools are urgently required. The new training college opened this year at Agra will improve matters but more is required. Steps are being taken to make service in these schools more attractive, but some time must necessarily elapse before the position is materially improved.

New buildings for the Government High Schools at Cawnpore, Etawah, Fyzabad and Bara Banki were completed; and new buildings for the Government High School, Naini Tal, and the Government High School, Banda, and new blocks for the Government High Schools at Gonda and Srinagar, were under construction. The erection of the buildings for the new Intermediate schools at Jhansi, Fyzabad and Almora has been taken in hand. Aided English schools have also been active in improving and extending their accommodation. The demand for more hostel accommodation both in English schools and Vernacular schools continued.

Arrangements have now been made for the appointment of a medical officer for every English school in the province, and at the option of district boards for middle vernacular schools situated in dispensary towns. In September, 1918, district boards were invited to adopt the experiment of introducing English as an optional subject in middle vernacular schools. It was found, however, that few trained teachers of English were willing to enter the service of the board, but a beginning has been made and English is now being taught in five of these schools. To make service in district board schools more attractive it has been decided to raise the maximum allowance which boards may offer English teachers.

Primary education.

269. The number of schools for Indian boys has increased from 11,504 to 13,597 and the number of scholars in them from 685,830 to 759,672. Of the 2,093 new schools, 1,845 are schools maintained by boards, 223 are aided schools and 25 are unaided private schools. The progress thus shown in the programme for the progressive expansion of primary education may be considered satisfactory, specially in view of the fact that in the first year of the scheme the greater part of the additional assistance given to boards has been spent in improving the pay of teachers. The relatively small increase in the number of aided schools was due to the conversion of a large number of these schools into board schools. The number of pupils in upper primary classes rose from 98,996 to 101,924. It was only to be expected that the increase in the enrolment during the first few years of the scheme would be seen mainly in the lower classes.

One of the chief features of the new scheme is the large increase in the number of training classes, the number of which has increased from 265 to 505 and the number of students in them from 1,783 to 3,745. When the primary education scheme was launched the boards' output of trained teachers was considerably short of the number required. During the year the total staff has risen from 24,077 to 27,029. The increase of 2,952 was made up of 1,187 trained teachers and 1,765 untrained and at the end of the year there were 12,355 trained as against 14,674 untrained teachers.

During the year district boards received from Government grants aggregating Rs. 22·43 lakhs for primary school buildings, but most of this money is lying in the boards' balances. Many boards have held up their building programmes in the hope that the price of materials and labour would fall. It is now realized, however, that this hope was vain and building programmes are beginning to take effect.

The total recurring expenditure on primary schools of all kinds rose from Rs. 34·66 to Rs. 43·31 lakhs and the recurring expenditure on Indian boys' primary schools rose from Rs. 31·33 to Rs. 39·65 lakhs.

Although the total number of scholars belonging to the depressed classes is still small, good progress has been made. The number of special schools for these classes has risen from 160 to 208 and the number of scholars of the depressed classes enrolled in general schools has also increased from 13,474 to 18,954. A stimulus was given to the education of these classes by experiments made by the district boards of Meerut, Benares and Jaunpur which, at the suggestion of the Board of Education and with financial assistance from Government, employed supervisors for these schools. The results of these experiments have been encouraging, especially in the Meerut district, and all boards in districts where communities of these classes exist have now been invited to embark with Government assistance on similar schemes.

On the termination of the war "the United Provinces Journal" was converted into a popular educator. It aims at giving information in the simplest language on a variety of topics such as sanitation, agriculture, co-operation, forestry, industry and commerce. Its circulation has largely increased. Its chief function is to supplement the school curriculum and make up for the dearth in vernacular literature suitable for boys who have only received a primary education. Lantern lectures have also been adopted as a further means of popular education and 34 district boards are co-operating in the scheme.

Training and supply of teachers.

270. Fifty-five out of 61 candidates passed the examination at the Allahabad Training College. The number in the Lucknow Training College rose from 60 to 61. Forty-two sat for the Teachers' Certificate Examination, of whom 40 obtained certificates. At the training classes for mistresses at the All Saints' Diocesan College, Naini Tal, and the Woodstock College, Mussoorie, ten out of eleven candidates were successful as compared with twelve out of fourteen last year.

The number of normal schools remained the same, namely seven, while enrolment decreased slightly from 595 to 584. Training classes are included in the programme for the expansion of primary education and the number accordingly increased from 265 to 505 and the number of students in training from 1,783 to 3,745. Examination results showed that notwithstanding the large increase in the number of classes, the average standard has not deteriorated. Much, however, remains to be done in the way of improvement of accommodation and equipment.

Training institutions for women, excluding training classes for teachers in European schools are of three kinds, those which prepare teachers for English schools, normal schools that prepare teachers for the Vernacular Teachers' Certificate examination, and training classes that prepare teachers for lower primary schools. There are three classes of the first kind and one more is shortly to be opened in connection with the Crosthwaite Girls' School. There are two Government normal schools and five training classes attached to aided mission schools, while sixteen classes prepare teachers for lower primary schools. The total number of training institutions for women is thus the same as last year—26.

Technical education.

271. At the Gorakhpur Technical School the number of students under training in the day classes was 80, of whom 44 were in the Mechanics class, 24 in the Junior section and 12 in the Artizan class The night class had 19 European apprentices and 79 Indian workmen with an average daily attendance of 81. Employment was found for all students passing out of the school. A scheme for giving each student a stipend was brought into force from the beginning of August, 1919, which it is expected will attract a larger and better class of candidates for the Mechanics section. Classes for instruction in oil-engines and motor driving for demobilized soldiers were opened during the year and have been well attended.

There were 157 students on the roll of the Government Technical School, Lucknow, as against 130 last year. Sixty-nine attended the night classes. A motor training class which was opened for disabled soldiers was attended by 11 men.

The number on the roll of the School of Arts and Crafts, Lucknow, rose from 107 to 115. The number of candidates for the annual entrance examination was 53, of whom eight were considered unfit for admission to the school. Trained men have no difficulty in securing employment ; the demand exceeds the supply, and there are frequent cases of students leaving the school to take up work before the completion of their course. The Carpentry School, Allahabad, was opened on the 1st April, 1919, with an Artizan class only. General classes comprising an Artizan class for bazar *barahis*, wood-working classes for juniors and seniors, a polishing and painting class, an upholstery class, a teachers' training class and a class for British troops, were opened on the 1st August. Seventy-two Indian students were in regular attendance at the end of March, and the class for British troops attracted 19 men until their regiments were returned for demobilization. Plans for buildings, comprising drawing and lecture rooms, assembly and exhibition halls, machine rooms, hostel and staff quarters for all instructional and clerical staff are now being prepared.

Admissions to the Central Weaving Institute, Benares, increased from 87 to 121. In addition to the three years' technical and hosiery classes, carpentry and smithy classes have been started during the year. District weaving schools and peripatetic weaving schools continue to do good work. The Mau school has been made permanent and brought to the status of the schools at Etwah and Budaun.

Attendance at the Government School of Needlework, Lucknow, has fallen off for various reasons, but chiefly owing to the early marriage of a large number of students. The enrolment at the Leather Working School, Cawnpore, remained the same—forty-five. To meet the demands of the growing leather manufacture industry, a branch of the school has been started at Meerut since the close of the year. The School of Dyeing and Printing, Cawnpore, continues to attract students from all parts of India.

Female education.

272. The total number of institutions for Indian girls rose from 1,578 to 1,674 and the number of scholars from 53,641 to 57,966. All schools share in the increase except private institutions in which there is again a small decrease. English schools number 40 with an enrolment of 4,694 as compared with 38 and 4,216 scholars last year. Secondary Vernacular schools show a large rise in number of 13 to 67, while the number of scholars enrolled in them has risen by 1,282 to 6,353. The staff of the English schools now numbers 302 teachers against 248 last year and includes 116 trained teachers and 35 graduates. But the output of trained teachers is still insufficient and many mistresses are poorly qualified. In vernacular middle schools only 111 of the 465 teachers are trained, and in primary schools only 157 out of 1,706. Male teachers are employed in many schools. The number of primary schools rose from 1,137 to 1,222 and of scholars from 39,315 to 41,624. Nearly 32,000 girls are reported to be reading in boys' schools, as compared with 26,280 last year, but of these only 413 have passed beyond the preparatory stage.

Education of the special classes.

273. The number of institutions for Europeans decreased by 4 to 70, the fall being due to the closing of one unaided school, a railway night school

at Jhansi, a small railway primary school at Lucknow, and the transfer of the railway technical school at Lucknow to the care of the Industries department. The enrolment fell by 440.

Expenditure rose by Rs. 12,162. The whole of the increase was met from fees, which were higher by Rs. 124,791, while contributions from public funds decreased by Rs. 48,219 and from other sources by Rs. 64,410. The year was one of considerable strain on the resources of the European schools. The Colvin Taluqdars' School at Lucknow was full with an enrolment of 76 as compared with 63 last year. The school has been without a Vice-Principal throughout the year, but arrangements are being made to fill the vacancy.

The number of Hindus reading in schools and colleges increased from 736,997 to 801,534, and of Muhammadans from 170,929 to 187,602. Muhammadan education thus shows a slightly larger proportionate growth. All classes of institutions record an increase in the number of both Hindus and Muhammadans except private institutions, in which the Muhammadans have fallen in number from 35,991 to 33,394. Special provision was made in the primary education programme for the encouragement of Islamia schools and aided *maktabs*. The five-year programme contemplated an increase of 1,030 in the number of Islamia schools and 940 in the number of *maktabs*. In the first year in which the scheme has been in operation the number of Islamia schools has increased from 284 to 492, and the number of aided *maktabs* from 456 to 627. There is considerable difficulty in obtaining teachers for Islamia schools.

56—Literature and the Press.

(See the tables under the head 'Printing Presses and Publications,' Part VII—Statistics of British India.)

Literary publications.

274. There was again a decline in the number of publications from 2,029 to 1,702 which is attributed to the rise in the cost of paper. Hindi, with a total of 913, maintains its place as the medium of general instruction for the masses; Urdu, although richer in the production of serious and advanced literature, has only 286 to its credit; Sanskrit shows a considerable decline. Arabic has stood still, while Persian has more than doubled its output. A considerable increase under History is more than balanced by the decrease under Religion, Poetry, Law, Fiction and Politics.

As usual, the social reformer has contributed largely. Tracts were issued by the Arya Samaj denouncing child marriage and advocating remarriage of child widows. Vegetarianism is the theme of five publications. Caste publications number over 30, the authors of which fall chiefly into two classes: those who, while content to remain in the social stratum in which they were born, desire to infuse new life into their caste-fold and to this end advocate reformed notions of communal life; and the less submissive class who wish to loosen the bonds of caste and claim a higher position than that to which birth has assigned them.

Although small in quantity, the political publications are varied in range. Seven bear on the Reform Scheme, three of which embody the views of the land-owning classes. While Government measures, which were adopted to restrict the activities of the political agitator, are attacked in some publications, there is also to be found a tract which has run into three editions in Urdu in defence of the Rowlatt Act. Indian Nationalism has found expression in eight poetical effusions and in a work *Bharatiya Rashtra*, modelled on the lines of Mrs. Besant's 'India—a Nation.'

Religious publications fell from 350 to 261. Militant Hinduism finds expression in 53. On the one hand, there is the Arya Samaj which seeks to reform Hinduism from within and to free it from what it considers to be its apocryphal accretions: on the other, the Dharma Sabha which stands for Hindu orthodoxy. The two sects make common cause on the question of cow protection, though, while the Arya Samaj favours her for her economic usefulness, the Dharma Sabha is influenced by purely religious motives. The work

of the Arya Samaj in the field of education and social reform is of undoubted value and merits commendation.

The output in Philosophy is small, consisting of only 20 publications as against 27 in 1918. The most promising philosophic work of the year perhaps is represented by the first volume of the "Kashmir Series of Texts and Studies," edited by Mahamahopadhyaya Makund Ram Sastri.

In history a number of books appeared which possess an original interest not generally met with in the Indian world of letters. These are of the nature of local histories and monographs on historical characters Although the level of scholarship is not of a high order, the work reveals both a spirit of research and some literary enterprise. From the Hindi Sahitya Sammelana of Allahabad we have the first part of a History of India, supposed to present the last word on ancient India history from the strictly Indian standpoint. The work, so far as it deals with Vedic and Puranic episodes, is largely a conjecture drawn from mythical sources and though interesting, is of little historical value. Some translations of works on European history were issued and biographies of devotees and religious leaders were fairly numerous.

The output under Fiction was small and of no great value. Original works of Fiction number 43, included amongst which are a crop of social novels whose aim apparently is to disseminate reformed notions of intersexual relations. Healthier Fiction is represented to a small degree by four additions to the "Zanana Literature ka Mufid Silsila," but those are not up to the level of previous books of the series. A few readable stories have appeared, but they cannot be classed as literature. Poetical works, on the other hand, reveal signs of scholarship and literary ability. A new edition has appeared of Behari's *Sat Sai*, edited by Pandit Padam Singh Sharma, a work of considerable merit. Epic poetry is well represented by several editions of classical writers and there is also a large and varied collection of ballads written for the masses. Amongst poems of literary interest there are two by the Hindi poet Maithili Saran Gupta, both characteristic of the national spirit that has lately come into prominence in Hindi literature. Kalidas and Bhasa hold the field as dramatists. Modern drama is represented by adaptations of Shakespeare, and plays depicting subjects that have a religious or ethical basis either in the Puranas or in popular tradition.

The year's contributions to scholarship are more valuable than those of the previous year. There is a Jaina Gem Dictionary, a handy book of reference in the modern literature of Jainism, and three further parts of the *Hindi Sabda Sagara*, a comprehensive Hindi lexicon. Under Urdu scholarship mention may be made of a movement, evidenced by no less than seven publications, to standardize Urdu idioms and style. The most important of these is the first part of a dictionary of Urdu idioms entitled the *Farhang-i-Shafaq*. In Sanskrit the *Gítá-Darsana* by Kanno Mal represents the first attempt of its kind at a co-ordinate study of the several works bearing the title of "Gítá," and a scholarly volume in the "Sacred books of the Hindus" series by the late Rai Srish Chandra Vasu Bahadur; deals with various interpretations placed upon two of the Upanishads by different commentators.

The legal output of the year is of little interest. In Medicine, both Eastern and Western systems are represented. The only original work on Western medicine deserving of mention is the tenth edition of Major Basu's "Diabetes and its Dietetic Treatment." Under Science, a book which merits notice is a Manual of Qualitative Chemical Analysis in Hindi by Professor Saksena of the Gurukula at Kangri. War Literature has declined, there being only 24 books of this class as against 40 last year. Educational Literature covers a range extending from the Kindergarten to the University and comprises a varied assortment of books, tracts and magazines bearing on matters educational, theoretical and practical. No work of more than passing interest has appeared, but the output, as a whole, reveals a spirit of earnestness and all-round activity.

Indian Press.

275. The total number of newspapers and periodicals printed during the year was 398 as compared with 359 in the previous year. Of these 63 were in English, 138 in Urdu and 165 in Hindi, increases occurring in papers written in all three languages, but chiefly in those written in English and Hindi. Only in two cases did the circulation exceed 6,000. Of the total number Lucknow contributed 69 papers, Allahabad 60, Agra 35, Benares 31, Cawnpore 25, Meerut 22, Aligarh and Moradabad 16 each, Bijnor 14 and Saharanpur 9. Eleven important new papers appeared during the year, two in English, six in Urdu and three in Hindi.

Tone and policy.

276. Three printing presses did not open and six proposals to start newspapers failed to materialize owing to demands for security under the Press Act. Two printing presses closed and one newspaper ceased publication owing to demand of security. Security was taken in thirteen cases and forfeited in two cases. Formal warnings were conveyed to four persons connected with newspapers by District Magistrates and to five persons by order of the Local Government.

The press as a whole was bitterly critical in tone throughout the year. Its attitude can best be summarized by saying that all papers were extremist with regard to Punjab affairs; nearly all Muslim papers were or became extremist on the Khilafat question; while on the subject of the Reforms there was a clearly marked division into two groups, of which the extremist group was considerably the larger. The pace generally was set by three of the extremist papers which were started during the year and it was in the case of two of these that forfeiture of security became necessary. In one case the larger security demanded was not forthcoming and the paper ceased to appear.

The Rowlatt Bills met with general opposition from the beginning and only three papers of any importance disapproved of the Satyagraha campaign from its inception, though a few others were wise after the event. The administration of martial law in the Punjab caused much dissatisfaction. A constant stream of criticism of the action of Government was maintained throughout the year, its acerbity being specially marked on the passage of the Criminal Emergency Power Act, during the discussion on the Indemnity Bill and on the appointment of Sir Michael O'Dwyer to the Army Commission. The extremist press professed dissatisfaction with the *personnel* of the Disorders Enquiry Committee from the outset and also with the methods of procedure adopted by the Committee, but the leading moderate paper did not agree with it on these points, though on other questions which arose in connection with the enquiry and on the conclusions to be drawn from the evidence taken at it, it was at one with its extremist contemporaries.

Little attention was given to the Peace negotiations with non-Muslim countries. The League of Nations was regarded with suspicion as a device for preserving the supremacy of the strong over the weak. The terms of the Peace Treaties with Germany and Austria were pronounced to be harsh, inconsistent with President Wilson's fourteen points and unlikely to lead to a lasting peace. Later on, however, this criticism was forgotten and it was urged that the terms which had been imposed on the Central Powers were lenient in comparison with those foreshadowed for Turkey. The absence of a Muslim representative at the Peace Conference was deplored. Even the most moderate Muslim papers urged that the conquered provinces of the Turkish Empire should be left under Turkish suzerainty. A suggestion that India might be given a mandate for Mesopotamia was rejected with ridicule and the entire Muslim press objected to the idea of a Jewish State in Palestine. A suggestion that the mosque of St. Sophia should be restored to the Christians evoked bitter protests. During the period June to October feeling on the Turkish question was less intense and the papers did little more than manifest their support of the efforts which were being made by Indian Muslims in London. Interest was, however, quickened by the All-India Muslim Conference held at Lucknow in September and with the observance of a Khilafat day in October violence of tone again appeared. The Greek claims greatly exacerbated

feeling and from this time the Muslim papers presented a solid front in support of their extremist leaders. The Anglo-Persian agreement was vigorously condemned as further evidence of the policy of exploitation and absorption of Asiatic countries. The last notable incident of the year was a vigorous rally in support of the movement to boycott the Peace Celebrations owing to the events in the Punjab and the Khilafat question.

The murder of the late Amir of Afghanistan was attributed to the unpopularity of his pro-British policy. The outbreak of war, however, proved that Afghanistan had few active supporters in India. The Government of India was blamed for having encouraged the Afghans to attack India by the declaration that the Punjab was in a state of rebellion. During and after the war Government was freely criticized for its alleged secrecy, and complaints of inefficiency were freely made against the authorities responsible for the conduct of the campaign. Peace was welcomed when it came though its terms were criticized and the danger of an Afghan-Bolshevik alliance was pointed out.

The actual shaping of the Reforms excited comparatively little interest until June when the despatch of the Government of India on the subject was condemned as illiberal, and keen support was accorded to the dissentient minute of Sir Sankaran Nair. The proceedings of the Joint Committee in England called forth little comment. Its recommendations were at first denounced but subsequently this hostile attitude was somewhat modified.

Indignant articles on the disabilities of Indians in the colonies were frequent and the special legislation on the subject in South Africa was freely condemned. In the numerous strikes which occurred during the year the sympathy of the Press was with the strikers. The republican movement in Ireland was watched with sympathy and encouragement was held out to China in her resistance to Japanese encroachment.

The Imperial budget was received unfavourably, the increased expenditure on the Army being the principal object of criticism. In addition to the usual contention that commissions in the Army should be given more liberally to Indians it was urged that a voluntary system for Indians should be introduced and the British garrison reduced.

57—Literary Societies.

(See page 92 of the report for the year 1911-12.)

58—Arts and Sciences.

(For details see the annual report of the Lucknow Provincial Museum for the year ending 31st March, 1920.)

277. Mughal coins required for reproduction in plates were taken to England during the year and the work of printing the catalogue of Mughal coins entrusted to the Clarendon Press, London. The catalogue of the coins of the Guptas and connected dynasties was completed and sent to the Government Press for publication. A considerable number of acquisitions was made during the year. Objects secured for the Archaeological section are varied and of considerable interest and consist of manuscript documents, brass figures, sculptures, terra-cottas, beads and stones. The additions to the Numismatical section number 168. The most interesting find was that of Ahichhatra copper coins from Ramnagar in the Bareilly district. A fine collection of Kumaun butterflies was presented during the year to the museum. Additions to the Ethnographical section number 25, all but one being acquired by purchase. The total number of visitors to the museum was 169,728, an increase of more than 20,000 on the previous year. The number of *pardanashin* ladies, however, decreased from 2,534 to 1,027. Expenditure including special grants for non-recurring items rose from Rs. 13,080 to Rs. 28,742. Receipts increased from Rs. 253 to Rs. 339.

CHAPTER VIII.—ARCHAEOLOGY.

59—Archaeology.

(For details see the annual report of the Superintendent, Muhammadan and British Monuments, Northern Circle, and of the Superintendent, Hindu and Buddhist Monuments, Northern Circle, for the year ending 31st March, 1920.)

Conservation. 278. The amount spent on the conservation of Muhammadan and British monuments in the United Provinces was Rs. 45,698, Rs. 10,722 being spent on special and Rs. 34,976 on annual repairs. Various monuments were brought during the year under the operation of the Preservation of Ancient Monuments Act, chiefly in the Lucknow district.

Expenditure on Hindu and Buddhist monuments in the United Provinces amounted to Rs. 2,422, of which Rs. 604 were spent on the erection of a stone chhatri over the Asoka pillar and Rs. 1,818 on other conservation and excavation works at Sarnath. The construction of the pavilion over the Asoka pillar was taken in hand during the year but could not be completed.

Exploration. 279. Excavation work at Sarnath was continued. The previous year's excavations had led to the identification of a large courtyard attached to the main shrine. Work on this part of the site was continued and a few more sculptures were brought to light. Work was also started on other parts of the site and some interesting discoveries were made.

CHAPTER IX.—MISCELLANEOUS.

60—Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction.

(See page 94 of the report for 1911-12.)

61—Ecclesiastical.

280. The year was uneventful.

62—Stationery.

Stationery. 281. The total value of stationery supplied during the year was Rs. 8,72,259 against Rs. 6,75,869 in the previous year and Rs. 4,98,659 in 1917-18. The value of stationery issued to the press was Rs. 6,94,432 as against Rs. 5,37,861 in 1918-19, the higher expenditure on this account being mainly due to the larger supply of paper and also of parchments for War Sanads and University Diplomas. The value of stationery issued to other offices increased from Rs. 1,38,008 to Rs. 1,77,827. This increase is reported to be due to the increase in the number of indenting officers and to the high prices which prevailed.

63—General miscellaneous.

Government Press. 282. The receipts of the Government Press rose considerably from Rs. 1,88,199 to Rs. 3,11,605, the main responsible heads being "Stock Forms" and "The United Provinces Journal" a new receipt head. The distribution of the Journal was greatly reduced from October, 1919. Up till then it had been free. The weekly edition is now about 40,000, of which 24,000 copies are free and 16,000 paid for. The receipts under this head amounted during the year to Rs. 51,457. The printing bill for the year was Rs. 9,06,050, an

increase of Rs. 52,142 on the preceding year. Expenditure amounted to Rs. 4,24,803 as compared with Rs. 4,49,225 last year or a decrease of Rs, 24,422, occurring chiefly under the heads "Permanent establishment" and "Supplies and services and contingencies." There was also a considerable decrease in the amount paid to private presses from Rs. 23,194 to Rs. 12,230. The number of publications received under the Copyright Act for registration again decreased from 1,829 to 1,661, of which 1,151 were original works and the remaining 510 reprints. Benares, with 523 publications, maintains its position as the leading centre, followed by Allahabad 386, Lucknow 322, Cawnpore 111, Aligarh 97, Agra 86 and Moradabad 82. The increased value of work was due partly to increased volume and partly to higher cost of production. Both salaries and the cost of raw materials rose. Labour problems were at one time somewhat acute and Government sanctioned an interim increase of pay to all technical workers from the 1st January, which eased matters considerably. The general provincial scheme further improved the pay of the men and also included the supervising and clerical staffs.

REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION

OF THE

UNITED PROVINCES

OF AGRA AND OUDH

1920-1921.

B M
BRANCH
OF THE
ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY

ALLAHABAD:
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1922.

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REPORT ON THE ADMINISTRATION

OF THE

UNITED PROVINCES OF AGRA AND OUDH, 1920-21.

PART I.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

INTRODUCTORY NOTE.

THE year to which the following general summary relates is in the main the financial year from the beginning of April, 1920, to the end of March, 1921. The summary is necessarily based, however, on the reports received from each department of the administration, and the period reviewed in these reports varies. The report of the Board of Revenue covers the year ending on the 30th September, 1920, while that of the Agricultural department relates to the year ending on the 30th June, 1921; the Police year closed on the 31st December, 1920, and the report of the Sanitary Commissioner deals with the same period; the Excise and Income-tax year is the same as the financial year ending on the 31st March, 1921. It has now been decided that the period dealt with in the report of the Forest department, which has hitherto covered the year ending on the 30th June, shall coincide with the financial year; consequently the period dealt therein this year extends only from the end of June, 1920, to the end of March, 1921. A supplementary chapter for the period from April to December, 1921, based chiefly on material furnished by Heads of departments is appended to this summary, but in the absence of detailed reports for this period little more can be attempted than a statement of general conditions and tendencies.

GENERAL CONDITIONS.

Weather.

1. During the first few months of the year 1920-21 the weather was favourable and hopes were entertained that the provinces would be able to recover completely from the scarcity of 1918. April was practically rainless and seasonable for harvesting operations. Rainfall in May and June was above the normal in most parts of the province, while heavy and continuous rain was received in July everywhere except in the Bundelkhand division. In August the falls, though general in the first half of the month, were scanty afterwards and only in a few eastern districts was the subsequent rainfall sufficient for requirements. The failure was most pronounced in the western districts, while among the eastern districts the Benares and Gorakhpur divisions fared better than the rest. From September to the end of December there was practically no rain anywhere, and it was not till the third week in January that there was a general fall which was well distributed and proved of much value to the standing crops. In February there were only scanty showers, and the month of March was again practically rainless and the first part marked by strong westerly winds and high temperatures.

Crops.

2. The early withdrawal of the monsoon, together with westerly hot winds which prevailed in October, severely affected the kharif crops in the unirrigated tracts, and the average yield of all crops for the province as a whole was only 62 per cent. The area under cultivation declined, however, by only 3 per cent. as compared with the previous year. Rabi sowings commenced somewhat later than usual in the hopes of rain and agricultural operations were retarded in some districts by lack of moisture. The result was a decline in the rabi area by 12 per cent. On the other hand the outturn was better than the kharif, the yield for the province for all crops being estimated at 75 per cent. of the normal: the wheat outturn was 82 per cent., barley and *arhar* 84 per cent. and gram 81 per cent.

3. Prices remained almost stationary up to the end of August, when the cessation of the monsoon began to cause apprehensions regarding the kharif harvest. The prices of all food-grains then rose rapidly. There was a downward tendency again in the months of January and February owing to the impending advent of new grain into the market, but the strong westerly hot winds in March once more turned the scale. Wheat rose in price during the year from $6\frac{1}{4}$ to $5\frac{1}{2}$ seers to the rupee; barley from $9\frac{1}{2}$ to $8\frac{1}{4}$; gram from 8 to $6\frac{3}{4}$, and *juar* from $10\frac{1}{2}$ to $7\frac{3}{4}$. On the other hand maize, which stood at $8\frac{1}{2}$ seers in October, had fallen to 10 seers by the following February, and rice, which was 4 seers at the beginning of the year, had dropped to 5 seers at its close. The prices of fodder continued to range high. *Juar* stalks fetched fancy prices and *bhusa* sold well even at harvest time.

AGRICULTURE.

Future development.

4. An outline was given in last year's report of the scheme for the re-organization and development of the Agricultural department. A start has been made in carrying out the scheme, but shortage of recruitment and the high price of machinery continued to check the rate of progress. Only three new officers were added to the provincial staff of the Indian Agricultural Service during the year, one being appointed Entomologist and the other two Deputy Directors. There were no surplus Deputy Directors available to carry out the scheme of expanding the present four circles into ten. It is hoped, however, to open three new circles at an early date. Twelve new posts were sanctioned during the year for the Provincial Agricultural Service, and twenty new posts for the Subordinate Agricultural Service. The Agricultural Engineer's staff has also been strengthened by the addition of a second Agricultural Engineer and three assistants.

Research.

5. Research work on cotton, sugarcane, and wheat continued. As regards cotton, reliable information regarding the probable trend of the market in India and abroad is essential and much will depend on the advice and information supplied by the Indian Central Cotton Committee. The research farm at Raya in the Muttra district is now fully equipped and in working order. The appointment of a botanist for the special study of indigenous cottons has been sanctioned. The report of the Indian Sugar Committee has been received since the close of the year. The Committee have approved the lines on which research work is being conducted in this province and have made a large number of suggestions. The experiments

which have been made at Shahjahanpur show that there is no reason why the yield of cane in this province should not be doubled. The use of improved varieties of wheat continues to spread rapidly among the cultivators. The number of seed dépôts where the best varieties of seed can be obtained is being steadily increased and it is proposed eventually to establish a seed dépôt in every tahsil.

Agricultural education.

6. The number of applications received for admission to the Cawnpore Agricultural College shows that the demand for agricultural education is steadily growing and that the value of this education is appreciated by landowners. During the year the Government appointed a committee to consider the question of affiliating the College to the Allahabad University. The Committee's report is at present under consideration, but it is in any case intended to alter the present system under which two different types of agricultural education are given at the College. The present two years' course which combines school work with agricultural training does not require the costly equipment and staff necessary for a university degree course and can be carried out equally well and far more cheaply at agricultural schools. It is proposed to re-organize the school at Bulandshahr to meet this need, and it is hoped in the course of the next few years to establish several more agricultural schools, the equipment and training in which will be based on the experience gained at Bulandshahr.

Engineering.

7. The progress made with the construction of tube wells during the year was disappointing, mainly owing to the fact that engineering material has risen enormously in price and is very difficult to obtain. The succ ss of tube wells in this province has been established and the demand for such wells is at present altogether beyond the powers of the Agricultural department to satisfy. A large grant for equipment and for the building of a workshop is being made and it is hoped that before long the Agricultural Engineer will be in a better position to satisfy this demand. The expansion of the staff of the engineering section which was sanctioned during the year has made it possible to increase the assistance given to zamindars. The necessity for a district engineering staff for the regular inspection of the machinery given out by the department, to give instruction in its use and to arrange for simple repairs, has long been felt; and although the complete organization proposed is not yet possible, a beginning has been made.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Buildings and Roads.

8. Last year the activities of the Public Works department were restricted not only by financial stringency but also by difficulties due to shortage of transport and staff. The year now under review witnessed some amelioration of the latter condition only. Rates, far from being stable, advanced still further, and the scarcity of labour and carts coupled with enhanced prices of all kinds of materials were reflected in the great difficulties experienced in executing both works and repairs. The greater portion of the expenditure of about Rs. 30 lakhs under the head of provincial works was devoted to educational needs and the construction of buildings required for the provincial administration. As regards communications, fair progress was made despite the difficulties alluded to. It is expected that the cart-road from Bhatrojkhan on the Ranikhet-Ramnagar road and Ganai in the Almora district will be completed in the current year. An important project

has been drawn up for the continuation of the Rajpur-Mussoorie cart road from Kolukhet to Bhatta near Mussoorie.

IRRIGATION.

Financial.

9. The early cessation of the monsoon and poor winter rains caused an intense demand for water, which could only partially be satisfied. Shoaling difficulties at Bhimgoda curtailed the supply in the Ganges canal especially during the kharif, but supplies in the other canals also were inadequate, being the lowest on record for the rabi crop. The area irrigated by canals decreased by 77,322 acres and the value of the crops raised by over Rs. 90 lakhs. Working expenses increased by about Rs. 12 lakhs owing to the revision of pay of all classes of establishment and to the high level of prices. The total occupiers' rate assessed rose, however, by nearly Rs 7 lakhs, the increase being due to revision of rules and rates. There was a fall of over Rs. 6 lakhs in the net profit on the year's working.

The Sarda-Kichha Feeder and the Sarda (Oudh canal.)

10. The capital outlay on the Sarda-Kichha Feeder canal during the year amounted to Rs. 19·03 lakhs. Shortage of rolling stock on the Rohilkhand and Kumaun Railway greatly hindered the collection of materials and progress in masonry work was consequently slow. The estimate for the Sarda (Oudh) canal was sanctioned by the Secretary of State during the year at a total cost of Rs. 750·30 lakhs inclusive of all indirect charges. The project consists of 17½ miles of main canal, breaking up into three main branches (the Kheri, the Hardoi, and the Pilibhit) and commands an area of 6,400,000 acres in the districts of Pilibhit, Shahjahanpur, Kheri, Sultanpur, Hardoi, Lucknow, Unao, Rae Bareli, and Bara Banki. The area of annual irrigation anticipated is 1,368,000 acres, of which 600,000 will be in "kharif" and the remainder in "rabi."

Hydro-electric and other surveys.

11. The survey work of the year showed that the whole Ganges valley in Garhwal is disappointing in respect of power possibilities. The volume of water is large, but the formation of the valleys is on the whole unsuitable for the impounding of water. There are, however, three points on the river where the development of power seems possible. Surveys on the rivers in the Rewah State are in progress. Surveys are also being conducted in the Panna and other Bundelkhand States with the object chiefly of prospecting for power on the Ken and Paisuni rivers. Four survey parties were employed during the year to survey bundhi schemes in the Jhansi, Banda, Allahabad and Hamirpur districts, and projects estimated to cost Rs. 3·22 lakhs were prepared. These can at any moment be started as famine relief works.

SECURITY.

Crime statistics

12. The favourable conditions of the year were reflected in the statistics of crime, which show a marked decrease in practically all classes of offences against property. The number of cognizable cases reported was much lower than it has been for over twenty years, and was 31 per cent. less than the previous year. The returns of serious offences against persons and property were 22 per cent. lower than in any of the previous twenty years. Especially satisfactory was the success met with in the campaign against dacoity; the number of cases reported was less than in any of the previous six years and was 53 per cent. and 64 per cent. less than in 1918 and 1919 respectively. Most of the important armed gangs operating in the province appear to have been broken up. Robberies fell from 917 to 712 and ordinary murders from 824 to 696. On the other hand there was some

increase in cases of poisoning. The number of burglaries fell from 71,162 to 47,392, which is the lowest number on record ; and the number of theft cases was also the lowest on record.

Investigations and results.

13. Somewhat less success was met with in investigation than in the previous year, but the figures generally compare very favourably with those of several years preceding 1919. Out of 271 dacoity cases brought to trial, 213 convictions were obtained, 1,031 persons being convicted out of 1,854 tried. Theft cases tried numbered 7,371, of which 6,674 ended in conviction, the corresponding figures for the previous year being 10,562 and 9,631 respectively. The ratio of convictions to reports fell in murder cases from 29·5 to 28·4, 245 cases out of 374 brought to trial ending in conviction. As regards burglary, the percentage of conviction to cases reported remained stationary, while there was a fall from 26 to 15 in the number of convictions for poisoning. Most of the poisoning cases occurred on railways and were in all probability the work of professional criminals. There is room for improvement in the work of the railway police both in this respect, and as regards thefts from passengers.

Police administration.

14. It is satisfactory to note that the increase in the pay of the constabulary has resulted in a marked decrease in the number of resignations, and that the unpopularity of the armed branch of the service is dying out as a result of the grant of special allowances. Other improvements in the conditions of service have been sanctioned on the recommendations of the Civil Police Committee and there is reason to hope that the force have now entered upon an era of greater contentment. Discipline was above the average of recent years in spite of the continuance of a spirit of unrest in the country. The proportion of literate constables is still deplorably low, but the grant of special literate allowances which has recently been sanctioned should result in an improvement in this respect.

PROVINCIAL FINANCE.

The budget.

15. The budget for 1920-21 was framed on the assumption that there would be no set-back in general prosperity and that the revenue would continue to expand at the normal rate. This assumption and the removal of the restrictions on the use of the balance, which had been in force during the War, enabled provision to be made not only for the revision of salaries of subordinate establishments but also for a fair measure of activity in all departments. The budget contemplated an opening balance of 212 lakhs, an income of 849 lakhs, an expenditure of 985 lakhs, and a closing balance of 76 lakhs. The actual opening balance was 221 lakhs ; receipts exceeded anticipations by 13 lakhs, while expenditure was also in excess of the estimate by 8 lakhs; the closing balance was thus 90 lakhs. The actual deficit on the year's working was 130 lakhs, as against an anticipated deficit of 136 lakhs.

General position.

16. With the inauguration of the reformed constitution the year saw the end of the old system of financial settlements between the provinces and the Government of India. The new financial arrangements which are based on the recommendations of the Committee on Financial Relations have a fundamentally different basis. All revenues and charges which are wholly provincial in character have been wholly assigned to the provinces; and instead of the provinces receiving large grants from the Government of India

it is the provinces which are required to make a contribution to imperial revenues. For the United Provinces the contribution is fixed at Rs. 240 lakhs, and the Committee assumed that under the new conditions the provinces would have an increased spending power of Rs. 157 lakhs. For this province it was urged that this increased spending power was purely illusory, the conclusions of the Committee being based on figures which made no allowance for the new charges which came in the train of the new system of government nor for the heavy recurring liabilities on revised salaries. Subsequent events have shown that dissatisfaction with the new settlement was by no means groundless.

FORESTS.

Financial results.

17. Any comparison with the figures of the previous year is vitiated by the fact that the Forest report for the year 1920-21 deals only with the nine months ending on the 31st March, 1921, it having been decided that the period covered by the report shall in future coincide with the financial year. It may, however, be noted that the financial results of these nine months show an increase of over Rs. 4 lakhs in gross receipts, a decrease of over Rs. 6 lakhs in expenditure, and an increase of nearly Rs. 11 lakhs in the net surplus as compared with the twelve months from July, 1919, to June, 1920. The outturn of timber decreased slightly, but its value rose by nearly Rs. 7 lakhs. Under all other receipt heads there was some decrease as compared with the previous year. The resin industry was handicapped by shortage of labour and difficulties of transport, but the average outturn per 100 channels improved, and the yield and quality of the rosin manufactured from the resin were better.

Afforestation.

18. Experimental work continued, but owing to the early cessation of the monsoon and the ensuing period of severe drought most of the seedlings perished. In the Afforestation division, however, sowings were generally successful and the area under plantation was largely extended. In most places the owners of ravine land still regard afforestation proposals with suspicion, but it is hoped that in course of time the success of these operations in ravine lands belonging to Government or to big landowners will induce the smaller zamindars to look on them more favourably and to co-operate in the work.

Utilization circle.

19. The Utilization circle again showed a loss of Rs. 14 lakhs, which, as last year, is due to the fact that capital expenditure is being met from current revenue. If this fact is taken into account it will be seen that results are already extremely promising and now that the expert staff from England for the sawmill and turnery have arrived the enterprise should realize a handsome profit in the near future. It may again be noted that the policy approved by Government for this circle includes the maintenance of model institutions employing the most up-to-date machinery and imparting instruction in the most up-to-date methods of work with a view to fostering and developing wood-working and the resin industry, also the examination of timbers to ascertain their potential uses with a view to placing them on the market and the manufacture of articles from miscellaneous timbers with a view to demonstrating the uses to which such timber may be put and to increasing the demand for them. The investigation of numerous forest products and bye-products presents a wide field for future development.

General.

20. The importance of roads and bridle-paths has this year been further accentuated by the abolition of *utar* in Kumaun and the great rise in

the cost of coolie labour. The difficulty of carrying camp equipage will also necessitate a more extensive programme of forest rest-houses for touring officials, both in the hills and the plains. In Kumaun the Forest department had to cope with an agitation which resulted at first merely in difficulties of transport and an epidemic of petty forest offences, but subsequently, and since the close of the year under report, in an unparalleled outbreak of incendiarism which has caused vast damage to the Kumaun forests. Already before this outbreak Government had taken steps to meet the agitation by the appointment of a committee to investigate the grievances of the Kumaun hillmen. The Forest department had also evolved a scheme of pack ponies and roads with the object of gradually doing away with *utar*. Arrangements have now however been made for the supply of pack ponies wherever roads admit of it and permanent coolies in other places.

The extraction of two lakhs of broad-gauge sleepers from the Nepal forests in the Sarda valley, which have been presented free of royalty by the Nepal Durbar to the State railways, was completed shortly after the close of the year.

EXCISE.

Consumption and revenue.

21. In the supplementary chapter to last year's report it was remarked that the probability was that the favourable excise results of the first half of the year would be dissipated by the unfavourable economic conditions of the second half. To a large extent this forecast was correct: there was a considerable reduction in consumption during the second half of the year, but it did not become very pronounced until the last quarter, and taking the year as a whole there was a slight increase in the consumption of all excisable commodities except *ganja* and opium. The large rise in consumption during the first half of the year was due to general economic causes, a good harvest, an increase in the number of marriages, and a fall in the price of the raw material. To the reduced consumption of the last quarter many causes contributed; the effects of the partial failure of the monsoon were greatly aggravated by an agitation which was partly economic, partly political, and to some extent also of a temperance nature. The slight increase in consumption for the year, combined with considerable increases in the rates of duty on drugs and in the price of opium, resulted in an increase of Rs. 8·68 lakhs in revenue.

Excise offences.

22. The total number of prosecutions under the Excise Act rose from 1,114 to 1,178. Illicit distillation cases increased from 338 to 453, as a result of a good *mohwa* crop. The increase noted last year in the number of prosecutions under the cocaine sections of the Act in consequence of increased facilities for the introduction of the drug from Europe continued, there being 70 such cases as compared with 45 last year. Prosecutions under the Opium Act fell from 381 to 356, and convictions from drunkenness from 1,714 to 1,317.

Policy.

23. So far it may be claimed that the policy of checking consumption by reducing the number of retail shops and enhancing rates of duty has been fairly successful. Both as regards country liquor and opium there has been a considerable fall in consumption during the last ten years; on the other hand despite large enhancements of rates in recent years the consumption of drugs has not diminished, and it would appear that drugs and especially *bhang* are replacing to some extent country liquor. The statistics

also go to show that middle class consumers of country spirit are beginning to use foreign spirit in preference, owing to the increased price of the former. This tendency should, however, be partly neutralised by the higher scale of duties imposed on foreign liquor from the 1st March, 1921. As regards the policy to be pursued in the future a committee has recently been constituted to advise Government.

TRADE AND INDUSTRY.

Internal trade.

24. Internal trade recovered to some extent from the decline of the previous year. The volume of rail-borne traffic increased by nearly 116 lakhs of maunds in weight and by over Rs. 87 lakhs in value. Increases occurred both in imports and exports and were in both cases chiefly due to a larger despatch of grains. There was a slight improvement in the river-borne traffic between these provinces and Calcutta, which in the previous year had fallen very considerably.

Trade with Tibet and Nepal.

25. There was a considerable increase in trade both with Tibet and with Nepal. With Tibet the import trade increased in value by over two lakhs and the export trade by over one lakh, while imports from Nepal increased by over 19 lakhs, and exports to Nepal by nearly six lakhs. The improvement in the trade with Tibet was most marked in the imports of wool, due partly to the high prices of wool prevailing in the world's markets and partly also it would seem to the greater facilities and concessions offered to traders by the Tibetan authorities. Imports of grain from Nepal rose in value by no less than 30 lakhs, while there were decreases in the imports of some other commodities such as *ghee*, oilseeds and spices.

Industrial progress.

26. The difficulties of obtaining machinery, railway transport and coal, which were alluded to in last year's report persisted throughout the year under review. In addition the rise and fall in the exchange value of the rupee helped further to disturb the normal current of trade; the great rise in its value in the early months of 1920 led to wild speculation, in the form of orders for foreign goods in quantity out of all proportion to the probable demand; while the equally heavy fall which occurred before the bulk of these orders had been delivered or paid for, proved still more upsetting to trade. Moreover the autumn of 1920 heralded the beginning of an unprecedented trade slump throughout Europe, which still further restricted the European demand for Indian products, both raw and manufactured. These various causes, of which perhaps the most important in the United Provinces has been the shortage of railway wagons required for the carriage of both raw materials and finished products, have made the past year one of small prosperity for the industrialists in the province. Several mills and factories had to be closed down and in respect both of tanneries and glass-works there was a considerable fall in the number of operatives.

Labour.

27. So far the United Provinces have been comparatively free from the organized unrest of the labouring classes which has caused strikes elsewhere, but the Government have recognized the necessity of making provision to deal with labour troubles should they arise, and it has recently been proposed to establish a Conciliation Board for this purpose. The Government have also agreed to co-operate with the Government of India in carrying out a census of wages drawn by operatives in all the principal industries and in compiling a cost of living index, which will show the actual cost of living in the different grades of the working classes.

TECHNICAL EDUCATION.

28. The technical schools, both Government and subsidized, continued to do good work, and passed pupils have in most cases readily found employment in commercial firms or been able to start their own business. Most institutions report an increase in enrolment and special mention may be made of the Allahabad Carpentry School which, started only two years ago, is now one of the most successful and popular technical institutions in the province. A new Leather-working School at Cawnpore was opened during the year and soon had its full complement of students. A Government Fabric Printing School was also opened at Farrukhabad. A committee was appointed by Government to advise as to the future management of the weaving schools, both permanent and peripatetic; its report is at present under consideration. It is proposed to rebuild and expand the present Technical School at Lucknow into a school for mechanical and electrical engineers provided with the latest equipment. A committee has recently reported on the training which should be given to pupils at this institution. During the year the Government also considered the question of expanding the Chemical Research Institute, and in accordance with the advice of a committee of experts it is now proposed to build a Technological Institute where students will be taught the elements of engineering and the chemistry of their particular subject, and at the same time will receive practical training on a factory scale in the subject which they are studying.

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES.

29. The Co-operative department continued to adhere to the policy of making no advance without being fully assured that the ground in front is firm. A close watch was kept by the department on the working of the central banks with a view to preventing them from incurring liabilities beyond their margin of safety in their desire to expand business, as well as with a view to requiring them to maintain sufficient fluid resources to meet the deposits as they fall due. No primary societies were registered until their organization had been carefully tested on the spot by one of the officers of the department. Notwithstanding this cautious policy and an unsatisfactory agricultural season, the year witnessed the formation of no less than 883 societies, the largest number registered in a year. One hundred and eleven societies had to be closed and the net increase amounted to 3 central, 44 non-agricultural, and 725 agricultural societies. The working capital of all classes of societies taken together increased by Rs. 15·43 lakhs to Rs. 129·57 lakhs. Development during the year has partaken more of the nature of an extension to unbroken tahsils and tracts under the existing banks than of expansion to new districts. The movement has already spread to 45 districts out of 48, the only untapped districts being Dehra Dun, Pilibhit, and Almora. The proportion of arrears has been reduced from 26·2 to 22·2 per cent. in the case of central banks and primary societies combined and from 32·1 to 26 per cent. in the case of primary societies alone. There has been an extensive development of non-agricultural co-operation and a fairly large number of non-credit societies have been formed. Every attempt is being made to arrange for the better marketing of the products of co-operative societies. In order to exhibit these products and such other manufactures as can with greater advantage be manufactured by co-operative methods an industrial and agricultural exhibition, entirely financed

by co-operative societies, was held at Lucknow in January, 1921. Endeavours are also continuously being made to introduce among cultivators improved seed and agricultural implements and agricultural supply societies as recommended by the Agricultural department are being organised. The first such society formed at Hardoi is doing very useful work. There has been an additional recruitment of non-official workers during the year but the province is still backward in this respect.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Public health.

30. The year was fairly healthy and there were fewer deaths from all the main diseases except plague. The mortality from cholera was specially low, there being only 6,952 deaths from this cause as compared with 81,365 in 1919. Small-pox caused 6,354 deaths as against 10,993 in 1919, and fever 1,442,376 deaths. This number, though 133,256 less than in the previous year, is more than the number recorded in 34 out of the last 40 years. There were 7,632 more deaths from plague than in 1919 and diseases of the respiratory organs claimed 33,198 victims as compared with 25,768 in that year. This was chiefly due to the prevalence of pneumonia.

Birth and death-rates.

31. The provincial birth-rate, which had been falling for the last two years, rose again to 35·55 per mille of the population, and was 3·16 higher than the rate for 1919, though 5·43 lower than the quinquennial average. The province maintained the fourth position, which it occupied in 1919, in the comparative list of the birth-rates of the major provinces in India. The death-rate, which owing to the influenza epidemic reached in 1918 the abnormal figure of 82·37, continued to decline and fell to 37·23 as compared with 41·69 for the preceding year. The province has not, however, made the same progress in this respect as other provinces and having lost two places in the provincial list of death-rates, now occupies the penultimate position.

Infantile mortality.

32. Infantile mortality decreased from 303·5 per thousand in 1918, and 253·3 in 1919 to 220·2 in 1920. The proportion is still, however, very high, and the figures for some of the towns can only be described as appalling. Cawnpore city for instance had a death-rate of 551·07 per thousand births. Little improvement can be expected until much educative work has been done among the mass of the people. With this end in view various measures are being taken, such as the delivery of lectures and the distribution of pamphlets. The scheme for the training of indigenous "*dais*" is working satisfactorily in some towns; in others people are apathetic and little progress is being made.

MUNICIPALITIES.

Taxation.

33. The main difficulties which confront municipal boards in improving their systems of taxation and thereby increasing their revenue were alluded to last year. It cannot be said that the past year's work has gone very far towards solving them. The unsuitability of terminal taxation for some municipalities is now definitely recognized and several more have been allowed to retain octroi. Boards which retain this system, however, are being encouraged to improve it by the elimination of articles on which a substantial portion of the octroi is paid back in refunds and from which the income received is insignificant. Terminal taxation was introduced in two municipalities only during the year but several more have introduced it since its close. In some cases where it has been introduced municipalities have found it

necessary to amend their schedules, either because they encouraged evasion of the tax, or because, for other reasons, they yielded a smaller income than that produced by octroi. Comparatively little progress was made with the proposals for the extension of the pilgrim tax. It was pointed out last year that in some cases municipalities have no other obvious source from which they can expand their revenues, and that several towns which attract a large number of pilgrims had made proposals for the imposition of a pilgrim tax to be collected by the railway companies by means of a surcharge on tickets. The Government of India have encouraged such proposals and have now allowed the one-anna limit to and from the town concerned for third class passengers to be increased proportionately for intermediate, second and third class passengers. It still remains, however, to overcome the prejudices of the railway companies, some of which are adopting an attitude which can only be described as one of obstruction.

Water-supply and sanitation.

34. Efforts were made in some municipalities to increase the receipts from the supply of water, but expenditure and income in this matter are still far from balancing, expenditure having increased in some cases at a quicker rate than income. The chief improvements required in those municipalities which enjoy a modern water-supply system are a more equal distribution of water and more effective measures for preventing waste. It is also very necessary that the water works plant should be put in good order and where necessary replaced. Mention was made last year of the precarious nature of the water-supply in several of the more important municipalities. Small improvements were effected here and there during the year, and these municipalities just managed to avert a breakdown, but little was done to put matters permanently on a sounder basis. As regards sanitation progress was made during the year on minor drainage schemes, but little was done towards the carrying out of the larger schemes which the more important municipalities have in view.

Financial position of boards.

35. Finance is still a great obstacle which lies in the path of nearly all the boards. Many of the more important boards still cannot satisfactorily make both ends meet and until they do it cannot be expected that they will look with favour on large schemes of improvement which require an outlay out of all proportion to their resources, even though Government should offer to lend them the money. Most of the boards, however, are taking steps, whether by reduction of expenditure on establishments, or by enhancement of taxation, to improve the position, though more perhaps in this direction might still be done.

General.

36. There is little that is new to say about municipal administration during the past year. Perhaps the most encouraging sign of the times is an indication here and there that the public generally expect members of the boards to devote themselves to their duties with more assiduity and more public spirit; but at present it is hardly more than a voice in the wilderness. The position of the boards is not made easier by the mixing up of general politics with municipal affairs, and in some municipalities it is becoming for this reason more and more difficult to frame and carry through any consistent policy. At the same time except in a few cases political agitation has not had a very apparent effect on municipal administration generally and there is reason to hope that with the passing of the present phase of general unrest the members of the boards

will settle down to a period of greater harmony and co-operation not only with Government but also amongst themselves.

DISTRICT BOARDS.

37. As was pointed out last year little improvement can be expected in district board administration so long as the boards are financially dependent on Government. It is recognized also that their emancipation from official leading-strings in other respects is an essential item in the programme of reform. It is hoped that the Amending Bill which is now before the Legislative Council will make them as independent as is possible and desirable. Under this Bill, if passed, boards will become entirely elective, save for the reservation of two seats to be filled by the nomination of the Local Government. They will also become entirely non-official and the internal and external control which at present cramps their activities will be relaxed as much as possible, while the grant of considerable powers of taxation should make them eventually financially independent. At the same time it must be admitted that many difficulties lie before them and that the remedy of further taxation is hardly a popular one. Referring to the boards in his division, one Commissioner writes, and his remarks are applicable to most of the other divisions as well, "District boards will soon make a new departure of great importance and will do so under circumstances of great difficulty. They will find themselves half way through a big programme for the expansion of education which they will not have money to complete. They are faced with early reduction in the proportion of that expenditure to be contributed by Government. As regards their other services their condition will be even worse. They cannot expand in medical or sanitary provision; they cannot even maintain their roads, and when their present reserves are exhausted they will not be able to do much in buildings. There has been no real extravagance in staff nor are any considerable economies probable in any direction. The remedy will be for the boards to tax themselves, but it is not an easy one to apply."

EDUCATION.

Higher education and University reform.

38. The year was one of great educational activity. Early steps were taken to reform the higher education of the provinces on the lines recommended by the Sadler Commission. Intermediate colleges were built at Jhansi and Fyzabad and arrangements were made to enable Intermediate classes to be opened at Almora. These colleges are now working and are at present affiliated to the Allahabad University pending the creation of a Board of High School and Intermediate education. During the year the report of the committee appointed by Government to consider the question of the reconstruction of the Allahabad University, together with the detailed recommendations of its sub-committees, was laid before the Senate of the University. Nearly all the fundamental recommendations of the committee were accepted by the Senate and their resolutions on the scheme were submitted to Government. The scheme, though based upon the recommendations of the Calcutta University Commission, does not precisely follow either type of University proposed in the Commission's report for the province of Bengal. It contemplates the conversion of the Allahabad University into a teaching University at Allahabad with an external side for the control and supervision of the colleges outside Allahabad which may be associated with it. The committee which had been formed for considering a scheme for the constitution of a University at Lucknow submitted its

resolutions during the year to the Senate of the Allahabad University and they were generally approved. A Bill for the establishment of a University at Lucknow was introduced in the Legislative Council in August and became law two months later. A site has been selected and plans and designs for the erection of imposing University buildings have been prepared. Private donations to the amount of 30 lakhs have been promised for the University. Fair progress continued to be made by the Benares Hindu University. There was an increase in the number of students at the Central College which necessitated an increase in the college staff. The progress of the Engineering College was hampered by lack of funds and buildings, but a considerable advance was made, nevertheless. For the Muslim College at Aligarh the year was a most eventful one. A determined effort was made by non-co-operating politicians in October to change the college from its original purpose and to make it one of the chief seats of their national education. The attempt, however, failed, though the college was for a short time closed. When it re-opened on the 1st December, 1920, it was as a Muslim university.

Vernacular education.

39. Vernacular education made a considerable advance, but owing to economic and political causes not as much as had been hoped for. The great increase in the cost of the necessaries of life caused much discontent amongst the educational staff until their salaries were revised, and for a time some disposition was shown to join the non-co-operation movement. Few of the teachers, however, were in sympathy with the movement at heart and as soon as they were satisfied with their own position and prospects they brought their full influence to bear on the side of law and order. Non-co-operation agitators met with little more permanent success with the pupils. There was at one time some falling off in attendance in consequence of the agitation but the majority of the pupils who absented themselves soon returned. The scheme for the expansion of vernacular secondary education took effect from the 1st June, 1920, and before the end of the financial year the number of schools had increased from 460 to 554, the number of teachers from 2,409 to 2,654, and the number of scholars from 39,035 to 42,226. As regards primary education, the year saw the second instalment of the three years' programme carried through. The number of schools increased from 13,597 to 15,094; the number of teachers from 27,029 to 28,915, and the number of scholars from 759,672 to 805,150. Having regard to the rise in the cost of living and the consequently increased demand for child labour, and the adverse political conditions, these figures may be considered quite satisfactory.

Training institutions.

40. Progress is being made with the schemes for extending facilities for training Anglo-Vernacular school teachers. The Agra College for undergraduate teachers was opened during the year, and plans for establishing other colleges are maturing. A new college is to be opened at Meerut in the immediate future and later other colleges will be started at Gorakhpur and Bareilly. New normal schools are nearing completion at Jhansi and Muzaffarnagar and schemes for other normal schools are under preparation. When the new schools are completed there will be one normal school in each division of the province.

Female education.

41. Little definite progress can be claimed as yet in the sphere of female education, though the figures are not altogether discouraging. The total number of girl scholars increased by 1,238 to 59,254 in spite of a decrease

of 99 in the number of private institutions. Of public institutions secondary schools increased in number by 12 and the number of pupils reading in them by 1,540. Primary schools increased by 40 and the number of scholars in them by 1,245. Progress is, however, somewhat uneven, as 54 new primary schools were opened in the Shahjahanpur circle, while in the Lucknow circle 35 were closed. The need for an increased number of trained women teachers is as pressing as ever. It was not found possible to open any fresh training classes or normal schools for women during the year, but the scheme for opening four new normal schools is maturing and sites have been selected at Allahabad and Meerut. The affiliation of the Isabella Thoburn College to the teaching University of Lucknow and the opening of Intermediate classes at the Crosthwaite High School, Allahabad, the Theosophical College, Benares, and the Muslim High School, Lucknow, mark important developments in the higher education of women.

Depressed classes.

42. Further steps were taken by Government during the year to encourage the education of the depressed classes. As noted in last year's report, the experiment was tried in three districts of appointing a special supervisor to stimulate a demand for education among these classes, and the results of the experiment were so encouraging that it was decided to offer assistance to all district boards willing to embark on a similar campaign. The proposals of the boards have been revised by the Educational department and funds provided by Government to carry them into effect. The amount thus found by Government will meet the cost of a supervisor in 43 districts, of 245 new aided schools and of 128 scholarships.

POLITICS AND THE PRESS.

General tone of the Press.

43. It was remarked in the report for 1919-20 that the Press as a whole was bitterly critical in tone throughout the year. All papers, it was stated, wrote strongly on the subject of the Punjab; nearly all Muslim papers took up an extreme attitude on the Khilafat question; while on the subject of the Reforms there was a clearly marked division into two groups, of which the extremist group was considerably the larger. Little change occurred in the general attitude of the Press in 1920-21, except that the more moderate papers, headed by the *Leader*, seemed more inclined towards the close of the year with the advent of the Reformed Constitution to relax the agitation over the Punjab troubles and to forget the past.

Non-co-operation.

44. In June, Mr. Gandhi brought about the fusion of the agitations over the Khilafat and the Punjab into the non-co-operation campaign which gradually developed into a movement for the attainment of *Swaraj*. For a time the Muslims were his chief supporters, Hindu opinion being divided. Even the *Independent*, the leading extremist paper in Northern India, dealt very hesitatingly with the question of non-co-operation and was doubtful of its efficacy. Mr. B. C. Pal, its editor, held strong views of his own and the paper did not become a blind advocate of the non-co-operation campaign until he had vacated the editorial chair. On the other hand the *Bhavishya*, a leading extremist Hindi paper, strongly supported it, and the fervour of the campaign brought three other Hindi daily papers into existence the *Aj* of Benares and the *Vartman* and *Daily Pratap* of Cawnpore. The *Avadh Akhbar* and *Mashriq* joined with the *Leader* in condemning the movement, and towards the end of the year the failure of attacks on Government

colleges, schools, and aided institutions had an appreciable effect on other papers, including the *Hamdam*, the advanced Urdu daily of Lucknow.

The Khilafat.

45. In April, 1920, Muslim feeling, which had hitherto been hostile to the Allies generally, became decidedly anti-British. The Prime Minister after his reply to the Khilafat deputation, was charged with faithlessness, and it was suggested that while the attitude of France was on the whole reasonable, the economic greed of England stood in the way of an equitable settlement. It was pointed out that by acquiring Mesopotamia and Palestine England was only strengthening her hold on India. Little sympathy was shown for the massacred Armenians, who were described as notorious seditionists who had richly deserved their fate. Considerable solicitude, on the other hand, was displayed for the Muslim sufferers in Smyrna. An insistent demand arose for the recall of Indian troops from Mesopotamia.

Afghanistan and Persia.

46. Afghanistan received considerable attention on account of the Conference at Mussoorie, and the encouragement given at first by the Amir to the Hijrat movement. This movement was accorded strong support by the Muslim papers, but its failure and the sufferings of its victims met with but scanty recognition. The Government of India was advised to cultivate friendly relations with Afghanistan in view of the Bolshevik danger, though stories of the Bolshevik régime in Russia were received somewhat sceptically. Throughout the year England was constantly advised to withdraw from Persia.

The Reforms.

47. In the early part of the year there was a general tendency to accept the Reforms and to agitate for more. The situation changed, however, with the publication of the Congress report and of the report of the Hunter Committee on the events in the Punjab. The feeling engendered by these reports was accentuated by the debates in Parliament and the raising of the Dyer Fund, and on the development of the non-co-operation campaign, shortly afterwards, the advanced papers supported the "boycott of Councils" campaign, and hailed the result of the elections as a brilliant success for the non-co-operators. His Majesty's instructions to the Governors of the provinces were discussed on party lines, eliciting applause from the Moderates, and from the Extremists the complaint that no time-limit had been fixed for the grant of *Swaraj* and no guarantee had been provided against the repetition of the Punjab atrocities.

Miscellaneous.

48. The struggles for independence in Egypt and Ireland were viewed with sympathy and the self-immolation of the Lord Mayor of Cork elicited much admiration. The repeal of repressive Acts continued to be demanded from time to time and though the *Leader* and a few Moderate vernacular papers acknowledged the forbearance of Government, no support was given to the authorities in the prosecution of violent Khilafat agitators against whom proceedings were found to be necessary during the year. The murder of the Deputy Commissioner of Kheri was generally condemned, though the advanced papers concerned themselves chiefly with efforts to prove that it had no connection with the Khilafat movement. Government was repeatedly warned that repression would only lead to a strengthening of the non-co-operation movement.

The disabilities of Indians in the Dominions and Crown Colonies were treated almost entirely as a racial matter, and retaliatory measures were urged against the European colonists. Considerable attention was devoted

towards the close of the year to the threatened wholesale return of emigrants from Fiji, and to the Government despatch on the subject of the treatment of Indians in East Africa, to which the Moderate papers accorded a fair reception. The Esher Committee's report was generally condemned on the score of racial prejudice. Its critics asserted that it was designed to make the military supreme, to reserve high posts for Englishmen, and to keep Indians in perpetual subjection. The Auxiliary Forces Act was condemned as anti-Indian and pro-English.

SUPPLEMENTARY CHAPTER.

APRIL TO DECEMBER, 1921.

GENERAL CONDITIONS.

Weather.

1. Light showers were received during the second and third weeks of April, 1921, and weather conditions were generally favourable for the harvesting of the rabi crops. May was practically rainless. The rainfall in June was general; most of the Meerut and parts of the Agra divisions received rains appreciably in defect of the normal, while in other districts, notably in the Rohilkhand and the Kumaun divisions, the rainfall was considerably above the normal. In July the rainfall, taken as a whole, was moderate and generally below the normal throughout the provinces, but in August it was continuous, heavy and above the normal in all parts of the provinces. Except in a few districts of the Jhansi division and Oudh, the rain was generally in excess of the normal during September, and the monsoon, the course which was on the whole very favourable, lasted till the end of the month. Excepting a few scattered light showers in the second and third weeks, the month of October was practically rainless, while no rain was recorded in November. The rainfall in the last week of December, though generally below the normal, was beneficial to the standing crops.

Crops.

2. Sowings of the kharif crops commenced from the second week of June and about the end of July almost all the districts had received rains sufficient for the kharif sowings and preparation of fields for rabi. Apart from the local damage caused to the kharif crops in low-lying lands from floods and the heavy rains of August and September, the prospects of the harvest were generally favourable, especially of rice which promised an excellent crop. Cotton was damaged by the heavy rain in some districts, but was greatly improved with the fine weather which followed and the quality of lint was on the whole up to the average. The yield of the different kharif crops is estimated as follows :—

Maize 79 per cent., *juar* 88 per cent., *bajra* 87 per cent. rice early and sugarcane 85 per cent. each, rice late and cotton 80 per cent. each, small millets 89 per cent., pulses 70 per cent., and indigo 83 per cent. of the normal. Figures of the rabi area are not yet available, but with the amount of moisture present in the soil the area promises to be a record one. Germination has been satisfactory and the standing crops are doing well. Prospects of the harvest are so far highly favourable.

Prices

3. The general tendency of prices from April to October was to rise. Wheat rose from 6·50 seers to the rupee to 4·50 seers; barley 9·26 to 7·18 seers; gram from 7·49 to 5·28 seers; *juar* from 8·36 to 5·56 seers; maize from 8·23 to 7·83 seers; and rice from 5·25 to 4·70 seers. A downward movement became perceptible in November when the kharif crops began to come on the market. Wheat dropped to 4·52 seers; barley to 7·46 seers; gram to 5·41 seers; *juar* to 8·19 seers; maize to 8·55 seers; and rice to 4·96 seers. It will be seen that, except in the cases of *juar* and maize, the fall was slight. Figures for December are not yet available, but the downward movement appears to have continued.

AGRICULTURE.

Future development.

4. The Indian Agricultural Service has been further strengthened by the addition of an expert Agriculturist. Proposals are before Government for the appointment of four more Deputy Directors and one more Expert Agriculturist, and five new posts for the Provincial Agricultural Service and twenty in the Subordinate Agricultural Service have been proposed for the next year. But owing to the present financial stringency it is probable that this programme will be largely curtailed.

Research.

5. It is proposed to expand the Sugarcane Research Work carried on at Shahjahanpur on the lines recommended by the Indian Sugar Committee. The work requires special experience of the crop and an expert knowledge of sugar chemistry. The Indian Sugar Committee have recommended that a special officer should be deputed to develop the work in progress in the United Provinces with three experimental or research stations under his control, but for the present owing to the shortage of Deputy Directors it is proposed to concentrate all activities on sugarcane at the Shahjahanpur Research Station, which will remain under Mr. Clarke, an expert both in general agriculture and in sugar chemistry, who can combine the charge of the Rohilkhand circle with sugarcane research.

Agricultural education.

6. The Bulandshahr Agricultural School opened on the 1st of October, 1921, and succeeded in attracting a large number of applications for admission. The admissions were, however, limited by the accommodation available, as the additional boarding-house has not yet been constructed.

Engineering.

7. Considerable expansion of the Engineering section of the department has made it possible to increase the assistance granted to zamindars in the selection of sites for, and the installation of, tube wells.

FINANCE.

8. When the Budget for the year 1921-22 was framed and passed by Council no apprehensions were entertained that the anticipations of revenue would not in the aggregate be fulfilled. Subsequent events have dissipated the hopes then entertained. Under Excise the drop in revenue is 50 lakhs: the causes are described in dealing with the subject of Excise in paragraph 10; and while it is possible that this may not be a permanent reduction in provincial revenue, the effect has been, at any rate temporarily, that the revenues of the province are now no longer sufficient to meet the existing requirements apart from all possibility of expansion. Another important event in the period with which this part of the report deals is the appointment of a small official committee to consider the retrenchment of expenditure in the various departments. Finally the province has to congratulate itself on the successful flotation of the first Provincial Loan under the Reformed system of Government. The amount of the issue is Rs. 4,18,69,500 and of this sum Rs. 1,84,66,800 was subscribed within the province and the rest at Calcutta. The loan is designed for expenditure on the Sarda canals, which will benefit a great part of the province and notably the cane-producing area, and for general development in other directions.

FORESTS.

9. The revised Forest budget for 1921-22 shows a surplus of nearly 30 lakhs. Figures of both revenue and expenditure are almost identical with those of the actuals of the previous financial year. With a good

monsoon considerable progress has been made with afforestation in the ravine areas, some 2,000 acres of new plantation being laid down. The incendiarism alluded to in the main report, which resulted in 70 per cent. of the protected area in the Kumaun circle being burnt, very considerably reduced the resin output but owing to there being heavy stocks of crude resin still in hand the year's outturn of manufactured product will probably show little decrease. The most serious consequence of this outbreak of incendiarism is the destruction of all regeneration up to the age of about 15 years in the burnt areas. The need in the Submontane divisions of mechanical means of facilitating export is becoming increasingly felt. Cart hire and wages are rising rapidly. As the conservation of the forests is producing a larger yield and the supply of carts is limited, carters are in a position almost to dictate their own terms. These conditions have been reflected at recent auctions where in one or two cases coupes entailing long leads to the railway commanded no bidders.

EXCISE.

Consumption

10. The tendency noticed in the main report for the consumption of excisable articles to decrease considerably during the last quarter of the financial year 1920-21 became still more pronounced in the first quarter of the following year. The consumption of country spirit declined by no less than 63·9 per cent., of opium by 13·9 per cent., of *ganja* by 42·3 per cent., and of *charas* by 37·3 per cent. as compared with the consumption in the same period of the previous year. In the second quarter of the year some improvement occurred and the decline for country spirit was only 53·7 per cent., for opium 11·5 per cent., for *ganja*, 19·8 per cent., and for *charas* 28·3 per cent. For the period October to December, 1921, statistics are not yet available, but it may be noted that consumption has continued to increase, and with a good kharif harvest and fair rabi prospects it is expected that some of the ground lost will be recovered though, as already noted, a large fall in the excise revenue for the year is inevitable. There can be little doubt that the reasons of the great decline in consumption during the first half of the year were primarily economic. Poor crops and a continuance of high prices left the people with little to spend on drink and drugs. Another important reason was the fact that the season was unfavourable for marriages; and a further factor which, though of minor importance, cannot be entirely overlooked was the non-co-operation agitation which exercised an adverse influence on consumption in various ways.

Policy.

11. A committee was appointed by Government in March to enquire into and report on various questions in connections with excise. Its terms of reference were wide; it was asked, among other questions, to consider whether the fixed-fee system for the sale of country liquor should be substituted for the auction system, and if so in what areas; whether any variations should be made in the incidence of the duties levied upon excisable commodities to give effect to the policy of raising the maximum of revenue, while limiting consumption to a minimum: and whether any, and if so what amendments should be made in the United Provinces Excise Act and the rules made thereunder. The committee has submitted a full report on these and the other questions referred to it and its recommendations are now under consideration. It has, however, already been decided that the

opium and country spirit shops in all districts shall be allocated to selected vendors from the commencement of next year, on the basis of a monthly fee assessed in arrears on the issues of opium and country spirit made to each shop during the preceding month. The hemp drugs shops of 18 districts coming under the contract supply system will be similarly settled.

VITAL STATISTICS.

12. Although the estimated number of deaths from all causes in 1921 was less than the number of deaths recorded during the preceding year, the death-rate showed a slight increase. This is due to the fact that the rate for 1921 has been calculated on the census population of 1921, which showed a falling off of 1,430,126 souls as compared with the population enumerated in 1911. Small decreases were returned under the heads of small-pox, fevers, respiratory diseases, and all other causes, but there was a very marked increase in the number of deaths from cholera—a death-rate of 3·82 having been recorded during the year under report against ·15 in the preceding year. The districts under the cholera scheme returned an estimated number of 116·431 deaths during 1921 against 3,694 in the preceding year. During the year under report about seven tons of permanganate of potash was supplied to the twenty districts of the Lucknow, Fyzabad, Gorakhpur, and Benares divisions. Slight increases were reported under plague, dysentery and diarrhoea, and injuries. Cases of influenza ordinarily of a mild type occurred in certain districts and towns. The estimated number of births as well as the birth-rate of the year were lower than those of 1920. The infantile mortality in 1921 showed a slight increase over that of last year. Except for a severe epidemic of cholera, the year may, on the whole, be regarded as a healthy one.

EDUCATION.

Higher education and University reform.

13. In addition to the Intermediate Colleges opened at Jhansi, Fyzabad, and Almora, arrangements are being made to open others from July, 1922, at Etawah, Ghazipur, Moradabad, Lucknow, and Allahabad. Some aided high schools have applied for assistance to open Intermediate classes and their proposals are under consideration. The assent of the Government of India to the Bill for the Board of High School and Intermediate Education has been received and it is hoped that the Board will shortly be constituted. The Bill for the reconstruction of the Allahabad University has been passed by the Local Legislative Council and, since the close of the year 1921 the assent of the Government of India has been received. The Lucknow University and the Aligarh Muslim University have formally commenced their work.

Vernacular education.

14. Twelve night schools have been opened in each of six municipalities as an experimental measure. Grants amounting to Rs. 61,990 recurring and Rs. 1,02,980 non-recurring have been distributed to district boards to assist them to carry out programmes for the expansion of female education and a scheme has been prepared for awarding scholarships in girls' schools. Returns have been received from all municipal boards showing the cost of introducing compulsory education. On the basis of the figures received the Local Government have promised to bear two-thirds of the additional cost involved. The Education department has invited the boards to seek its assistance in working out their schemes for compulsion. The response

has been encouraging. The Cawnpore board is the first to complete arrangements and will probably introduce compulsion early in 1922.

SECURITY.

Criminal statistics.

15. There was a considerable rise in offences against property during the year 1921. The returns for 1920 were, however, exceptionally low and the figures for 1921 fell far short of those for 1919. The most marked increase was in cases of dacoity, but the agrarian troubles in Oudh were largely responsible for this and dacoity of a professional type was comparatively rare. This latter fact was undoubtedly due to the excellent work done by the police during the last few years in breaking up gangs of professional dacoits and accounting for the most dangerous leaders. The number of robberies reported, on the other hand, was almost the same as in 1920. Cases of house-breaking showed an increase of some 16 per cent. and the figures were abnormally high during the latter part of the rains. For the last quarter of the year, however, the incidence was lower than during the corresponding period of 1920. Other classes of serious crime showed no marked variation from the figures of the previous year.

Investigations and results.

16. It is impossible at present to give the result of police investigations, but it may be remarked that the work has been very seriously hampered not only by the very heavy amount of political work which the police have had to perform, but also owing to the antagonistic attitude adopted by the public. The political situation has been very serious throughout and has necessitated officers considering this branch of their duties as being entitled to the first call on their time and energy. Moreover, it may be noted that the criminal classes have not been slow to take advantage of the situation.

Police administration.

17. The strength of the force has remained practically unaltered. The extra pay and allowances sanctioned in 1920 as a result of the recommendations made by the Civil Police Committee have had an excellent effect and have provided much-needed financial relief to the subordinate ranks of the force. Nevertheless the present high prices still render it difficult for the lower ranks to make ends meet. An officer has been placed on special duty to deal with the recommendations made by the Civil Police Committee which have not already been given effect to, and to consider what further concessions are called for and what improvements can be made in the conditions of service of the subordinate police. Very serious attempts have again been made to tamper with the loyalty of the force, but, although a few misguided officers and men have been induced to resign on political grounds, the force as a whole has remained true to its salt. The year has been an exceptionally hard one for the subordinate police and their conduct as a whole has been most praiseworthy. Numerous instances have come to notice in which individual members of the force of all ranks have shown bravery and devotion to duty of a high order while the patience, tact, and good temper which have been exhibited time after time in most trying circumstances have won them the unstinted praise of almost every official with whom they have come in contact.

POLITICAL CRIME.

Character.

18. Political crime during 1921 has been directly bound up with the agitation which has openly and unceasingly aimed at the overthrow of Government. Extremist agitators of the non-co-operation cult have found

in Oudh and other parts of the proivnces where the tenantry laboured under the sense of agrarian and kindred grievances, fertile soil for the dissemination of their doctrines and the result has been seen in riots and disturbances which it was not possible to suppress without bloodshed. And serious as these disturbances have been, they would undoubtedly have been far more serious, had not the leaders considered that the time had not yet come for pushing things to extremes. There had already been trouble of a similar nature in Partabgarh in September, 1920, but the situation there had been eased by the institution of an official enquiry. Throughout that year agitators had been busy amongst the cultivators in the Allahabad, Rae Bareli, Fyzabad, Sultanpur and Jaunpur districts.

The riots at Rae Bareli.

19. Disturbances began in the Rae Bareli district on January 2nd and 3rd, with the destruction of crops and property belonging to certain landholders ; similar incidents occurred on the following days, and on the 5th January, a landlord was besieged in his house by a mob of 3,000 and was only rescued by the timely arrival of the district authorities. From that date onwards the state of the south of the district deteriorated rapidly. Dacoities and attacks on bazars were projected or perpetrated in increasing numbers and on the 6th a mob of 4,000 had to be dispersed by fire at Fursatganj. On the 7th there were further dacoities and a crowd of between 7,000 and 10,000 men which attempted to force its way into Rae Bareli to release prisoners in the jail there, had to be stopped by firing at Munshiganj. The situation was soon brought under control but attacks were made on the police on January 23rd and again on March 20th and on the latter and following day firing again became necessary. On each occasion, however, when firing had to be resorted to, the number of killed and wounded was extremely small, four only being killed at Fursatganj, and only two, so far as is known, at Munshiganj. Between January 2nd and 8th, when the disturbances were at their height, there were 37 distinct occurrences of dacoity, mischief, and riot. One thousand and twenty-four men in all were arrested but all except 108 were subsequently released.

Events at Fyzabad, Aligarh, etc.

20. In Fyzabad disturbances began on January 12th. Some 30 villages and a bazar were looted on the following two days. Here the victims were the tenantry and the aggressors were mobs of low-caste, landless labourers. The prompt arrival of the district authorities prevented the extension of the disturbance and during the next few days investigations were made and some 347 persons were arrested. Further disturbances were threatened on the 20th, but the danger was averted. Riots occurred at Aligarh on July 5th, on the occasion of the trial of a local agitator. The crowd attacked the police who had formed a cordon round the collectorate buildings and had to be dispersed by a baton charge. The mob again assembled however in the city and attacked the tahsil treasury, but were repulsed by the guard consisting of a head constable and four constables, who fired on them causing several casualties. Several police outposts were looted and burnt, as also was the post office. Other disturbances of a less serious nature occurred at various places during the year, including the looting of a bazar in Meerut.

Non-co-operation developments.

21. The year has been notable for the rapid development of the previously existing Congress and Khilafat volunteer associations. Up to

November volunteers had been used as escorts to give prestige to extremist leaders, as couriers, as private police to keep order at extremist meetings, as propagandists, and especially as picketing agents and instruments of "peaceful persuasion" in connection with boycotts and *hartals*. They were under no direct central control; their development had been left largely to local enterprise; they were run on vaguely military lines, but efforts to give them military training had been elementary and sporadic. By November 22nd these organizations had grown to such proportions and their intimidation and picketing activities had become so pronounced and general, especially in connection with the boycott of the Royal visit, that it was found necessary to proclaim them as unlawful associations under the Criminal Law Amendment Act, which was extended to the province for the purpose. The result was a declaration of open defiance by the Congress leaders, an attempt to centralize the organization, a widespread appeal for more volunteers and volunteer demonstrations almost everywhere. This activity was firmly met by arrests of the leaders, both provincial and local, and by arresting, dispersing or ignoring their followers according to the various views taken in each district as to what would prove the most effective means of action locally. The proclamation of "volunteers" as unlawful associations undoubtedly had a steadying effect, discounted by the excitement and defiance worked up in several large centres of population and by the "Moderate" disapproval of the application of a special Act. In all except a few districts volunteers have not got beyond the stage of futile demonstrations; enrolment does not appear to have reached the proportions which the leaders expected; processions are being manned to an increasing extent by boys, bazar riff-raff, hired demonstrators, and ignorant villagers brought into the towns for the purpose. But the whole effect on respect for law and authority is undoubtedly bad.

SPEECHES AND THE PRESS.

22. The violence and volume of seditious print and speech increased so greatly during 1921 that the number of prosecutions under the Criminal Procedure Code and the Indian Penal Code for such offences increased from 7 to 93, while the number of publications which it was found necessary to proscribe under the Press Act rose from 6 to more than 100, this despite the fact that the policy of Government has continued to be one of the utmost forbearance and that only the most dangerous and persistent agitators have been brought to book. It is no exaggeration to say that a large proportion of the hundreds of speeches which are made at non-co-operation meetings every month would justify prosecution. Similarly the number of publications proscribed represents only a fraction of the objectionable matter which has been poured out of the presses. Amongst the most mischievous and most widely spread of all the appeals made to popular ignorance and prejudice was the notorious Mutafiqa Fatwa of the Ulema which declares it to be a sin to serve Government in any capacity, especially in the Army and the Police. Reports of the distribution of this Fatwa by hand to sepoys have been received from more than one district.

Newspapers.

23. Generally speaking, the tone of the Press became more bitter and more anti-British than it was in 1920. Of the English papers the *Independent* of Allahabad has been easily first in point of bitterness and has

assiduously supported the non-co-operation movement. It ceased publication late in December as a result of the confiscation of its security deposit. It is now being published in an abridged manuscript form reproduced by some method of duplication. The *Christian Nationalist* of Allahabad has urged non-co-operation among Indian Christians. The *Leader*, while continuing to be a relentless critic of non-co-operation and insisting on the necessity of supporting the reformed councils, has condemned the application of the Criminal Law Amendment Act and doubted the expediency of Government action in dealing with the revolutionary movement towards the end of the year as likely to strengthen the hands of the extremists.

Some of the Muslim papers, specially those issued from Bijnor, the *Madina*, *Alaman*, *Alkhalil*, and *Mansur* have advocated the extremist views on the Khilafat question. They have shown little critical capacity in dealing with political questions. Other Muslim papers such as the *Hamdam* of Lucknow and the *Albashir* of Etawah, which maintain a higher standard of journalism and a more restrained tone have leant distinctly towards extremist views on *Swaraj* and current topics. The *Aligarh Gazette*, the *Zulqarnain*, and *Mashriq* of Gorakhpur, on the other hand, have been staunch supporters of Government in spite of general dissatisfaction with British policy vis-a-vis the Turkish question.

Hindi papers have been very bitter in their attacks on the Government, specially the *Pratap* of Cawnpore and *Swarajya* of Unao and the newly-started papers, *Phakkar* and *Adarsha*. Although the *Aj* of Benares is ardently extreme, it is on the whole restrained and dignified. There has been a marked change in the policy of *Abhyudaya*, which had drifted from moderation towards extremism. A new paper, the *Kisan* of Allahabad, appeared during the year. It aimed at being the organ of tenants and was occasionally bitter against the landed classes. The *Gyan Shakti* of Gorakhpur deserves notice as one of the few Hindi papers that consistently support Government and oppose non-co-operation.

Legislative Council.

24. The Reformed Council met for the first time on February 14th, 1921, and was occupied during each session of the year with more than usually important business which was successfully carried through. To successful non-official resolutions are attributable the fact that the *utar* system in the hills was abolished; the allied systems of *begar* and *rasad* have been thoroughly investigated and reformed and the annual migration of Government to the hills has been curtailed considerably. A resolution reducing Ministers' salaries was rejected. The legislative programme has embraced measures of capital importance, the Intermediate Education Bill, the Allahabad University Bill, and the Oudh Rent Bill. All these passed the various stages after exhaustive debates. A District Boards Amending Bill has been introduced and referred to a Select Committee. It is generally agreed that the year's work has been harmonious, and has attained a high level of achievement.

PART II.

DEPARTMENTAL CHAPTERS.

CHAPTER I.—PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

1—Physical features, area, climate, and chief staples.

(*See pages* 1 *to* 6 *of the report of* 1911-12.)

2—Political.

For details see the annual reports on the administration of the Rampur, Tehri, and Benares States.

RAMPUR.

Revenue administration.

There was an increase of over 7 lakhs in receipts and a decrease of over two lakhs in expenditure for the year 1919-20. The total demand for the year under land revenue was Rs. 35·49 lakhs against Rs. 36·19 lakhs in the previous year. The decrease of Rs. 70,583 is made up of Rs. 52,854 under land revenue and Rs. 17,719 under irrigation. The former decrease is mainly due to some remissions and to the revision of leases of certain villages.

General.

2. The monsoon of 1919 commenced late, but gave good rain and there was less demand for irrigation. The winter rains were irregular and scanty. Various improvements were effected during the year in the irrigation systems.

Agriculture.

3. There was a slight increase in the cultivated area from 3,42,881 acres to 3,44,313 acres. During the year 209 villages were leased out on a higher revenue of Rs. 47,542 than under their previous leases.

General condition of the people.

4. The condition of the people appears to have improved. There was ample work for labourers on high wages both in rural areas and in the city.

Excise.

5. There was a slight decrease in the total consumption of country liquor, but the demand for the year rose from Rs. 123,575 to Rs. 153,684. Under opium the demand rose from Rs. 45,589 to Rs. 57,797, which is chiefly due to the rise in the price. The consumption of *charas* rose by four maunds and the demand from Rs. 29,656 to Rs. 32,882.

Police.

6. There was a decline in the number of crimes reported from 705 to 687. The decrease is found chiefly under the heads of murder, culpable homicide, burglary, and theft. There was a large increase under the heads of dacoity, robbery, and hurt by dangerous weapons.

Medical.

7. The year was again unhealthy, with influenza, small-pox, and malaria prevalent. But it was better than the previous year and the birth rate rose from 123 to 163 per 10,000 and the death rate fell from 565 to 265.

Education.

8. The number of schools rose from 118 to 123 and the number of scholars from 4,087 to 4,209, the increase occurring chiefly in primary schools. There were again fewer numbers at the High School, Madarsa-i-Alia, and the City Vernacular Middle School. The five village schools which were closed in the previous year owing to lack of support have been re-opened. Forty-four candidates out of 57 from the Madarsa-i-Alia were successful in various examinations of the Punjab University.

TEHRI.

9. The year 1920-21 was the first in which His Highness the Maharaja administered his State. The income of the State fell slightly from Rs. 14·59 lakhs to Rs. 13·83 lakhs, while there was a larger fall in expenditure from Rs. 14·26 to Rs. 12·10 lakhs. There was a fair *rabi* crop but owing to the partial failure of the 1920 monsoon the *kharif* was comparatively poor. No pressure was put on the people to repay the *takavi* advances of

past years and consequently there remains an outstanding balance of about three lakhs on this account. The collections of land revenue were satisfactory. The land settlement operations are nearing completion. The free *begar* system was abolished and partly in consequence of its abolition, partly as a result of the failure of the coolie agency, the Durbar started a State Transport department with some 80 mules and a number of permanent paid coolies. The work of the Forest Settlement continued. There was a large increase in the number of village schools from 30 to 43, while the number of scholars rose from 875 to 2,302. The enrolment of the Middle Vernacular School also rose from 125 to 153. An interesting feature of the year was the institution of an Agricultural Bank for making loans for trade and agricultural purposes at a low rate of interest.

BENARES STATE.

10. The total receipts from all sources in the year 1919-20 increased from Rs. 20·37 to Rs. 22·57 lakhs and the expenditure under all heads from Rs. 20·74 to Rs. 22·32 lakhs. Both receipts and expenditure largely exceeded the estimates. Considering the nature of the season the crop outturn was satisfactory. Rainfall was erratic; it began late and ceased early. Early rainy season crops suffered from excess of rain, and the autumn crops from its shortage, while as there was little moisture in the land a considerable area of *rabi* fields remained unsown. Health was fair. There was no cholera, but a certain amount of plague and influenza was prevalent. Births only slightly outnumbered deaths. There was again an increase in the number of persons brought to trial, from 2,776 to 3,211. Convictions, however, fell considerably. On the whole the statistics of the crime are much the same as in the previous year. The number of cases of dacoity and robbery and cattle theft increased, while there were fewer cases of burglary and grievous hurt.

There was a decrease in the number of schools from 82 to 81 and in the number of scholars from 7,517 to 7,213. The fall in the number of schools is due to the closing of an aided school. The decrease in the number of scholars is ascribed mainly to the fact that the carpet industry was in a flourishing condition and parents preferred to put their children to it rather than to send them to school. The number of scholars at the Lovett High School at Gyanpur rose by 31, while the number at the Meston High School at Ramnagar fell by 40. It has again to be remarked that the Sanskrit classes made little headway. There was no change in the number of girls' schools, but the number of scholars rose from 140 to 160.

3.—Historical summary.

4.—Form of administration.

5.—Character of land tenure and system of survey and settlement.

6.—Civil divisions of British territory.

7.—Details of last census, tribes, and language.

(*For sections* 3 *to* 7, *see pages* 8 *to* 41 *of the report for the year* 1911-12.)

8.—Change in administration.

11. The Hon'ble Sir Spencer Harcourt Butler, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., held charge of the provinces throughout the year.

The reformed constitution took effect from the 3rd of January, 1921, the members of the Executive Council being the Hon'ble Sir Ludovic Charles Porter, K.C.I.E., C S I., O.B.E., and the Hon'ble Raja Sir Muhammad Ali Muhammad Khan, Khan Bahadur, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., of Mahmudabad. The

Ministers appointed for the Transferred Subjects were the Hon'ble Mr. C. Y. Chintamani, Minister of Education and Industries, and the Hon'ble Pandit Jagat Narain, B.A., Minister of Local Self-Government and Public Health.

9.—Relations with tributary States and frontier affairs.

12. No important boundary disputes occurred during the year. A case of minor importance arose in which the exact boundary at one point between the Tehri State and the Dehra Dun district was at issue and the Tehri Durbar were addressed in the matter.

10.—Condition of the people.

(For details see the annual report on the revenue administration by the Board of Revenue for the year ending the 30th September, 1920.)

Season and crops.

13. The rains of 1919, though beginning somewhat late and in the western districts ending too soon, were on the whole very favourable. The weather of the winter of 1919-20 was also on the whole beneficial, as good rain fell at Christmas in the tracts where it was most needed. Public health was good and conditions were thus favourable to a recovery from the disasters of the preceding year. A full *kharif* was sown and very nearly a normal *rabi*, and as a good average yield was obtained from both crops the agricultural population was once more in a strong and satisfactory position at the end of the *rabi* harvest. The effects of the preceding season were, however, still visible. It is reasonable to suppose that the areas sown would have been not merely full but well above the normal, but for the influenza epidemic of the preceding winter; while straitened means compelled many cultivators to resort to the coarser varieties of grain as being cheaper to buy and less expensive to cultivate. Thus rice, sugarcane, and cotton occupied smaller areas than in 1917, and maize, *juar*, *bajra*, and the smaller millets larger.

The monsoon of 1920 began well but ended badly. Until the middle of August the rainfall was above the normal in most divisions. From then onwards, however, rain was generally scanty. The average rainfall for the whole season was as a result in defect throughout the provinces. The Jhansi division suffered the most with a defect of 40 per cent. Generally the defect was most pronounced in the western districts. Among the eastern districts those of the Benares and Gorakhpur divisions fared the best. The *kharif* area showed a decrease of about 4 per cent. as compared with the previous year, and the yield of all the *kharif* crops fell appreciably.

Prices, trade, and health

14. Prices had ruled high during the whole of the year 1918-19 in consequence of the failure of the 1918 monsoon. As soon as the prospects of the 1920 *rabi* were assured, a downward tendency manifested itself, but this ceased when the monsoon of 1920 ended prematurely and at the end of the year prices were again on the upward path. As a result wheat and barley were only a seer per rupee cheaper in September, 1920 than they were in October, 1919: gram was about two seers cheaper: rice was still more expensive and the prices of other grains were much the same. The main cause of the smallness of the fall during the prosperous period of the year was undoubtedly the world shortage of grain and the belief that it would be necessary for its export from India to be re-opened. The belief that prices would not fall led to hoarding on the part both of the grain dealers and of the cultivators.

As a result of Government control the net export of wheat fell by 7,960,248 maunds, but large quantities of gram and other pulses, *juar* and *bajra*, were exported. On the other hand the province continued to import rice during the whole period, taking in 3,695,936 maunds. The Punjab continued to supply a considerable quantity of gram. Transport difficulties on the railways continued to stand in the way of grain movements.

On the whole the public health was satisfactory and there was no epidemic calculated to interfere with agricultural activities. The total number of

deaths fell from 36 to 17⅛ lakhs, but still exceeded by nearly a lakh that recorded in 1916-17. Of this number 14½ lakhs are attributed to fever. Plague mortality rose from 17,000 to 23,800, and as usual was most severe in the eastern districts.

CHAPTER II.—ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

11.—Realization of the land revenue.

(For details see the annual report on the revenue administration of the Board of Revenue for the year ending the 30th Septmeber, 1920.)

Total demand and collection.

15. The total demand on account of land revenue, cesses, and rates amounted in round figures to Rs. 1,104 lakhs, of which Rs. 1,070 lakhs were collected and over Rs. 8¾ lakhs remitted, leaving a balance of less than Rs. 25½ lakhs. The principal item in the latter is Rs. 22½ lakhs under the *Takavi* Acts. The demand in the preceding year was Rs. 986 lakhs, the difference in the figures for the two years being due in the main to an increase of about Rs. 63 lakhs in the amounts due for recovery on account of land revenue, current arrears, for which the new settlements and suspensions in the previous year are responsible, of about Rs. 6 lakhs in the income from occupiers' rates due to their enhancement, and of Rs. 46 lakhs on account of advances under the *Takavi* Acts.

Land revenue.

16. The net realizable demand under land revenue was Rs. 721 lakhs, about Rs. 63 lakhs more than in 1918-19, the increase being accounted for by the regular revision of settlements and the suspensions or postponement of revenue made in the previous year. Collections amounted to Rs. 712 lakhs, Rs. 9 lakhs being remitted, suspended or postponed on account of drought, hail, and damage done by insects. The real balance outstanding at the close of the year was only Rs. 15,432. The suspensions and remissions of the current revenue demand were very small, Rs. 38,038 being suspended, Rs. 266 postponed, and Rs. 16,860 remitted. But it was necessary also to remit Rs. 8,40,065 and to continue under suspension to Rs. 6,354, out of the amounts suspended in the previous year owing to the drought. Meerut, Muzaffarnagar, Bulandshahr, Moradabad, Shahjahanpur, and Unao accounted for the greater part of the former amount.

Rates.

17. The current demand for occupiers' rate, which had risen in the previous year by over Rs. 12¼ lakhs, rose again by little over Rs. 6 lakhs, totalling over Rs. 119 lakhs. The rise was confined chiefly to the Meerut and Jhansi divisions, and in the former was due mainly to the enhancement of the sugarcane rate. But for the revision of the rates there would undoubtedly have been a heavy fall in income instead of a substantial increase. With the exception of Rs. 15,316 the whole realizable demand was collected within the year, an indication that the demand presses lightly. Collections of owners' rate was equally satisfactory. Of the total realizable demand of Rs. 1,15,081 all but Rs. 282 was collected within the year.

Advances.

18. The total sums advanced under the Agricultural Loans and Improvements Acts aggregate Rs. 26·04 lakhs. The year opened with a total of Rs. 229·60 lakhs on loan and recoveries amounted to Rs. 136·72 lakhs, so that the total amount outstanding at the end of the year was Rs. 119·63 lakhs.

Although the monsoon of 1919 was a good one advances under Act XIX reached the high figure of Rs. 7,28,950. The reason was that further instalments were given for works which had been begun in the previous year. Etah took the largest sum, and Jaunpur the next largest, both sums being well over a lakh. The only other districts taking more than half a lakh were Hardoi and Aligarh. Hardoi had the largest number of masonry wells finished during the year, namely 494; Etah was second with 326, and Jaunpur third with 245. In Etah it is stated that out of the wells for which loans have been given, 1,004 are under construction and 1,437 have not yet been begun and a large number have not yet been begun in other districts. This indicates that advances are not always given with sufficient care. The general result for the province was that 2,318 new masonry wells were

finished and 270 were repaired, while 5,160 were in course of construction and 1,966 had not been begun. In addition to this 112 new embankments and 25 new tanks were finished, 25 embankments and 14 tanks were under construction, and 24 embankments and two tanks were repaired.

The after-effects of the drought of 1918-19 made it natural that the cultivators should require considerable amounts for the purchase of seed and cattle, and it is therefore not surprising that the total amount advanced under Act XII should reach the figure of Rs. 18·75 lakhs, of which Rs. 13·65 lakhs were given for seed and Rs. 3·10 lakhs for cattle. The Jhansi division was easily first with a total of Rs. 6·32 lakhs, Benares was second with Rs. 3·39 lakhs, and Allahabad third with Rs. 2·90 lakhs.

Out of the total demand of Rs. 26·96 lakhs under Act XIX collections amounted to Rs. 21·12 lakhs or 82 per cent. of the net demand. Collections were short as usual in the Agra division, which accounts for Rs. 4,18,587 of the uncollected balance, Muttra, Agra, and Etah being once again heavy defaulters.

Under Act XII the total demand was Rs. 137·25 lakhs. Collections totalled Rs. 119·63 lakhs, leaving a balance of some Rs. 17 lakhs. The Agra division again had the worst record, with an uncollected balance of nearly Rs. 13 lakhs. Leaving this division out of consideration the figures of collections are extremely satisfactory and justify the policy adopted in 1918-19 of making liberal advances in a time of drought when local credit is contracted. Special measures to improve the position in the three districts of the Agra division referred to appear necessary.

Coercive processes.

19. The coercive processes issued totalled 189,347 or 4,191 more than the previous year's figure. There were increases in every form of process except writs of demand, which fell by 3,320, and are now seldom used except for recovering money from ladies who cannot appear in public, and sales of immovable property and annulments of settlement which are hardly ever employed. The cause of the increases was the larger demand under the Agricultural Loans Act. Citations rose by 1 per cent. and warrants of arrest by 2½ per cent. The largest increase, however, was in attachments, being 23 per cent. in the case of movable and nearly 46 per cent. in the case of immovable property. Citations amounted to 58 per cent. of the total number of processes issued.

12.—Settlements.

20. The districts of Saharanpur and Muzaffarnagar continued to be under settlement. In both the work was nearly completed by the end of the year. The settlement of Garhwal was postponed for two years.

Case work.

21. Saharanpur had the largest number of cases, there being 13,801 for disposal, nearly two-thirds of which were connected with the fixation of rent. Only 250 were pending at the close of the year. In Muzaffarnagar there were 11,826 cases for disposal, of which all but 4,647 were disposed of. Only 8 records cases were pending in Saharanpur and 370 in Muzaffarnagar.

Cost of settlement operations.

22. Expenditure during the year amounted to Rs. 94,133 for Saharanpur and Rs. 90,347 for Muzaffarnagar.

13.—Land Records.

Establishment.

23. During the year the pay of all ranks of the land records staff in the districts was raised and a further increase in the pay of patwaris has been sanctioned since the close of the year.

Patwaris.

24. Nine patwaris were permanently promoted as assistant registrar kanungos and 55 received officiating promotions to that post. Five got permanent appointments as partition amins and 20 were appointed to officiate as such. More than 90 patwaris were promoted to officiating vacancies in the supervisor's post and 16 were appointed to officiate in various subordinate posts such as ahlmad, siahanavis, kurk amin, copyist, etc. Two were exempted from the age limit and seven both from the age limit and the educational test. The percentage of patwaris holding the

school certificate is much the same as last year, as is also the percentage of unpassed men. There was a diminution in the number of resident and a consequent increase in that of non-resident patwaris. The reason for this is said to lie in the fact that with re-allocations pending in a number of districts owing to recent settlements and with the sanctioned re-allocation schemes of a few others having had to be postponed, strict enforcement of the rules regarding the obligation of residence had necessarily to be relaxed.

Kanungos.

25. One kanungo inspector was selected as an approved candidate for tahsildarship as was also a sadar kanungo. Three supervisor kanungos were permanently appointed as sadar kanungos and five received temporary promotion to that post. Three were appointed as permanent naib-tahsildars and 52 officiated in temporary vacancies. Four were selected as approved candidates for naib-tahsildarship, one was appointed as assistant manager of Court of Wards estates, two as sarbarahkars, and one as an instructor in the Kanungo Training School. Five were deputed on land acquisition work.

Revision of circles.

26. The re-allocation of patwari circles in the six recently settled tahsils of the Allahabad district was sanctioned with effect from the 1st April, 1920, but it was subsequently postponed until 1st July, 1921, as it would have very seriously hampered the success of the census operations. For similar reasons the re-allocation of circles in the Budaun district which was sanctioned to take effect from the 1st August, 1920, was postponed until August, 1921. The revision of patwari circles in the Lalitpur sub-division of the Jhansi district which had to be held back for some years past on account of financial considerations was sanctioned and carried out during the year.

Testing of papers.

27. The prescribed standards of tests by supervisors were fully worked up to and were in most cases exceeded. Taking the province as a whole the officers of the headquarters staff also did a fair amount of testing. The volume of work done in all districts except Pilibhit and Muttra was generally adequate. In these two the work was deficient. A healthy feature of the year's returns is the evidence they furnish of the marked attention paid to "retesting," which is probably the result of the orders issued last year. There is some difference of opinion as to the amount of testing to be done as against retesting. The amount of testing and retesting done by the tahsildars and their naibs shows a further advance over last year and was generally adequate. All round improvement is also reported in the work done by the sadar kanungos.

Maps, records, and boundary marks.

28. The condition of maps is reported to be generally fair and due attention was paid to the work of map correction. Owing to the migratory habits of the Buxas and the general instability of cultivation, maps in the Naini Tal district are reported to be generally full of corrections and in order to maintain them up to date and in good order it would be necessary to prepare a new map every year in a large number of villages. The continuance of the practice of intentionally altering field boundaries in tahsil Utraula of the Gonda district makes resurvey necessary every year.

The condition of boundary marks is reported to be good and they were generally inspected and necessary action in regard to renewal or repair taken. It was not possible to replace any boundary marks in Bulandshahr owing to the contractors having struck and refused to do the work at the rates previously current. All the work in connection with the experimental scheme of fixing permanent boundary marks in alluvial tracts in the Ballia district was completed during the year. Tahsil registers are reported to have been properly maintained and are up to date.

Concealment of rents.

29. Cases of concealment of rent are reported from four districts.

14.—Waste lands.

30. There is nothing of importance to record.

15—Government estates.

(For details as regards minor estates and Dudhi, see the annual report on the revenue administration by the Board of Revenue for the year ending the 30th September, 1920, and for the Government estates in the Kumaun division, see the separate reports for the year ending the 31st March, 1921.)

Minor estates.

31. The year opened with 520 properties held over from the previous year and closed with 505; 25 properties, etc., passing out of the possession of Government and 10 new properties being acquired. Of these 505, 168 are in Bundelkhand and 200 in Oudh. The only large properties are the Holagarh and Kharagapur estates in Allahabad and the Stud Lands in Ghazipur. The current demand rose from Rs. 3,93,278 to Rs. 4,29,246 owing mainly to revision of assessments in Dudhi. Ninety-seven per cent. of the total amount was collected as compared with 88 per cent. in the previous year. The cost of management was 14·4 per cent. as compared with 17·4 per cent. in the previous year and 16 per cent. in 1917-18.

Dudhi.

32. The year was unfavourable; insufficient winter rains caused a poor *rabi* outturn; and the *kharif* crop of 1920 was very poor where no protection was afforded by *bandhs*. Acute epidemic disease prevailed amongst the cattle, and this considerably hampered agricultural operations. The situation, however, was saved to a great extent by the briskness of the demand for lac, and its high prices, and notwithstanding that there was a big increase in the revenue demand owing to the revised assessments and careful management, for the fourth time in the estate's history it was collected under all heads. All buildings and roads were maintained in good order and improvements to *bandhs* and reservoirs have been, or are being carried out. Last year it was reported that improvements had increased the irrigated area from 484 to 1,500 acres, and this year there was a further increase of 300 acres.

Tarai and Bhabar estates.

33. The year was unfavourable for agriculturists on the whole, but the Bhabar tenants did very well as usual, whereas the Tarai men had a lean year. The early cessation of the rains did not affect the rice in the Bhabar, which is fully protected by an intricate system of masonry canals and consequently an excellent harvest was reaped. Dry crops were a failure everywhere, but this loss was more than compensated by a bumper crop of rapeseed which did particularly well in the Bhabar. The great deficiency of rain in September and October prevented the Tarai tenants from sowing anything like the full *rabi* area and the crops were indifferent owing to insufficient moisture.

Excluding the sum of Rs. 67,060 paid on account of fixed land revenue, the total expenditure of the year was Rs. 5,16,141 as against Rs. 4,36,861 in 1919-20. The increase is entirely due to the general revision of the pay of staff, the increase of prices and to the settlement operations in the Tarai. The actual receipts for the year amounted to Rs. 7,84,246, which is Rs. 62,669 less than the previous year's revenue. A decrease of Rs. 47,523 under forest receipts is due to smaller sales of *sal* and *khair* trees and to the rejection of excessive bids.

The general health of the people was distinctly better than in the previous year and the usual fever epidemic was mild, but there was an outbreak of cholera in February which lasted till May, 1921. The ratio of deaths continued to be very high especially in the Tarai. Attendance in the Bhabar schools is satisfactory but it is very poor in the Tarai.

Garhwal-Bhabar estates.

34. The year was, on the whole, a fairly prosperous one but the premature cessation of the rains of 1920, in the middle of August adversely affected the *kharif* outturn. Both *kharif* and *rabi* crops, were, however, on the whole fairly good. Receipts for the year rose from Rs. 32,141 to Rs. 35,328. Rent collections were, however, as usual cent per cent of the demand. Expenditure rose from Rs. 18,035 to Rs. 27,217, the increase being mainly due to revision of pay of establishment and to repairs to canals. The estates were free from epidemic cholera and the year was in fact exceptionally healthy. The tenants have continued to prosper, and except as

regards forest rights which they maintain should be increased *pari passu* with the increase in population, cattle and cultivated area, there has been a remarkable absence of complaints. The number of co-operative societies is 10 and 6 new societies are now in course of formation.

16.—Wards' Estates.

(For details see the annual report on the operations of the Court of Wards for the year ending the 30th September, 1920.)

Number of estates under the Court.

35. The number of estates under superintendence at the beginning of the year was 148. Charge was assumed of 13 estates with a rent-roll of Rs. 7,65,300 and 12 estates with a rent-roll of Rs. 8,30,600 were released.

Estates taken over or released.

36. Of the estates taken over six belong to minors. In two cases the proprietors themselves applied for assistance of the Court of Wards under section 10 and in one case charge was assumed under section 16 of the Act. In three cases action followed an enquiry under section 9. Similar enquiries in 17 other cases were made, in 15 of which interference was found inadvisable. Several cases were still under consideration at the close of the year. Four estates were taken over as a result of the enquiry into the circumstances of the greater zamindars of the province. In 63 out of 78 cases thus enquired into it was decided that intervention was unnecessary or undesirable.

Financial.

37. The gross receipts rose from Rs. 121 lakhs to Rs. 146¾ lakhs. The total expenditure was Rs. 140⅔ lakhs. A sum of Rs. 6 lakhs was invested during the year.

Rent collections.

38. The collections reflected the improved conditions of the year. The total current rental demand amounted to Rs. 1,08,44,178 against Rs. 99,62,435 in the previous year. 42·9 per cent. of the arrear demand was collected against 20·2 per cent. in the previous year. In all the divisions collections were on the whole satisfactory. The Sisendi estate in the Lucknow division collected 99·9 per cent. of its current demand and 95·6 per cent. of its arrears.

Land revenue.

39. The Government demand of Rs. 37,84,622 for revenue, rates, and cesses was paid in full. The actual demand for the year works out at 34·5 per cent. on rental demand and 36·1 per cent. on actual collections. The demand excluded Rs. 81 remitted and Rs. 393 suspended out of the current demand and Rs. 13,272 remitted out of the suspended revenue falling due within the year but it includes payment of Rs. 48,943 on account of the revenue suspended in the previous year.

Cost of management.

40. The cost of management amounted to Rs. 11·11 against Rs. 9·17 lakhs. The increase is chiefly due to the assumption of charge of certain estates and also to the increase in the pay of special managers.

Repayment of debts.

41. Excluding Rs. 19,793 due from the estates released at the close of the previous year, the balance of debts due at the close of the year was Rs. 1,36,42,401 against Rs. 1,39,77,482 at the close of the year under report. The debts thus increased by Rs. 3,35,081. This is due to the assumption of charge of some indebted estates and to the fact that the exact liabilities of certain estates, which were taken over in the previous year were discovered and added during the year. The total debts added during the year aggregated Rs. 20,49,379, of which Rs. 11,37,935 represents loans taken during the year, and the balance is on account of interest and costs. The actual sum devoted to the liquidation of debts was Rs. 38,49,734 or Rs. 18,10,661 more than in the previous year. A few estates either failed to pay the interest or failed to work up to the liquidation scheme. On the whole the progress made in liquidation of debts is quite satisfactory.

Improvements.

42. The total expenditure on improvements of various kinds aggregated Rs. 6·83 lakhs against Rs. 5·11 lakhs in the previous year, but the figures are still below those for the year 1916-17. Several districts report that efforts have been hampered by difficulty in obtaining labour and in securing competent overseers and contractors. The year was one of heavy rainfall and consequently interest in well-construction was not very keen.

Three hundred and twenty-six wells were constructed against 350 in the preceding year. The supply of tube wells has been hindered by the absence of an adequate staff and the high prices of materials. A good deal of attention was paid on most estates to the introduction of better seed amongst the tenantry. Efforts were made on some estates in the direction of the reclamation of waste lands. Some slight progress was made in continuing experiments in the re-organization and consolidation of holdings, but the obstacles are many and serious. Schemes are under preparation for the establishment of demonstration, dairy, and stock breeding farms.

Sanitation and education.

43. A sum of Rs. 53,636 against Rs. 42,134 in the previous year was expended on sanitation and medical relief. Nine dispensaries maintained by various estates continued to do useful work. The expenditure on sanitation alone amounted to Rs. 18,033 against Rs. 11,007 in the previous year.

Rupees 57,132 were spent on the education of the tenantry in addition to Rs. 3,510 on school buildings. Ninety-four schools were maintained entirely by the estates at a cost of Rs. 21,519. Rs. 8,613 were paid in aid of District Board schools in which estates were interested and Rs. 3,024 were expended in providing scholarships. The Kalakankar estate subscribed Rs. 25,000 towards the Kshattriya College in Lucknow, and Rs. 27,000 were paid by various estates as subscription towards the Canning College and other institutions. A special feature of the year was the liberal assistance given by nearly all estates in Oudh towards the Lucknow University. Promised contributions aggregated nearly Rs. 7·5 lakhs.

Agricultural banks.

44. During the year a good deal has been done by the Court of Wards to encourage the co-operative movement among its tenantry. Organizers have been or are about to be appointed in eight estates. In addition several estates have sent ziladars for training in co-operative principles. Many of the existing societies are flourishing, while many others are in an unsatisfactory condition. Nine new societies in Partabgarh were ready for registration at the end of the year, of which five were to the credit of the newly-appointed organizer.

Litigation.

45. It is believed that district officers generally continue to exercise caution in the matter of rent litigation and file suits only where they are unavoidable. The proportion of cases instituted which were lost was, as usual, negligible. The number of applications for enhancement of rent was large in Muzaffarnagar and Gorakhpur, due to the fact that these districts have been under settlement operations. Elsewhere it was very small. The Court of Wards was engaged during the year as plaintiff or defendant in 21 civil suits exceeding Rs. 10,000 in value. Four cases were decided in its favour and one was lost. One was partially successful and two were mostly lost. Three cases were compromised and ten were still pending at the close of the year. One of the most important cases—a claim valued at Rs. 33·33 lakhs—was compromised. The Court of Wards was involved either as appellant or respondent in 24 appeals during the year. Only two were altogether lost, but 14 remained pending at the close of the year.

Accounts.

46. The accounts of 98 estates were audited in the regular course during the year. In many districts the accounts were found to be on the whole satisfactorily maintained, but there is a large number of districts where the accounts are unsatisfactory, and the Board of Revenue have again had to draw attention to the necessity of observing rule 111 which requires quarterly inspection of accounts by sarbarahkars. There was only one case during the year in which embezzlement was suspected. A ziladar was prosecuted for misappropriating Rs. 83 but was acquitted.

General.

47. The education of the wards continues on sound lines and it is satisfactory to note that many of the heirs to the most important estates are doing well. Some of the wards are being trained in estate management, but the results have not always been satisfactory. The 10 per cent. cost of management standard was exceeded in 16 districts, but the increase was partly due to the increase of pay of special managers and also to the increase in the rate levied under Act X of 1892. The general increase in the pay of the Court of Wards' staff this year will raise the cost of management to an estimated figure of nearly 14 per cent which may with further development of estates fall to a 12 per cent. standard.

The maintenance and education of wards and their families cost about 25·04 lakhs or about 5·82 lakhs more than last year. The increase was mainly due to extra expenditure on ceremonies. In this connection the Board of Revenue have pointed out that while disqualified proprietors and their relatives bring pressure to bear in support of their claims for ceremonies and similar unproductive expenditure, no one connected with the estate is as a rule interested in proposals for the benefit of the tenantry.

17.—Revenue and rent-paying classes.

(For details see the annual report on the revenue administration by the Board of Revenue for the year ending the 30th September, 1920.)

Tenancy litigation, Agra.

48. There was again a large increase in the total of new institutions under the Tenancy and Rent Acts from 419,878 to 470,586. The principal increase was in ejectments, enhancements, surrenders, and miscellaneous applications, and decreases occurred only under three heads, distraints, resumptions, and applications for ejectment under section 59. The increase is ascribed principally to the return of parties from service in the army, the previous year's drought, and the high prices of produce which encouraged landlords to enforce their demands by suit and seek to obtain lands for their own cultivation by ousting tenants.

Suits for arrears of rent and ejectment for arrears.

49. The drought of 1918-19 caused rents to fall into arrears, and the collection of suspended amounts was attended with a certain amount of difficulty. It is not therefore surprising to find that the number of suits for arrears of rent increased from 181,225 to 201,518. The Rohilkhand division had the largest increase and the Agra division came next. The Meerut, Gorakhpur, and Benares divisions showed decreases. Many of the differences between districts are striking and difficult to explain. Applications for ejectment for decreed arrears decreased from 46,079 to 45,281 because there had been fewer suits for arrears in the previous year. It may be noted, however, that there have now been decreases under this head for three years in succession, and it is clear that the rise in the value of produce has enabled tenants to meet their liabilities with greater ease. The number of cases in which ejectment was ordered decreased from 9,857 to 9,682, but the area concerned increased from 38,771 to 40,217 acres, of which 33,864 acres, nearly the same area as last year, belonged to occupancy tenants.

Enhancement of rent.

50. Suits for enhancement of rent decreased from 18,533 to 17,290 in Moradabad, where an abnormal number had been filed in the previous year, having a fall of 1,575. Several district officers allude to the difficulties experienced by the courts generally in enhancing rents owing to their being no satisfactory method of ascertaining a prevailing rate.

Relinquishments.

51. The drought of the previous year had caused a large rise in the number of surrenders and it is not surprising that owing to its after-effects the same tendency continued. The number for the year, 11,698 less than the previous year's total of 12,342, exceeded that of 1917-18 by 2,028. Some Collectors are inclined to think that landlords are resorting to unlawful methods of inducing tenants to leave their holdings, but the Board of Revenue do not accept this suggestion. They do not consider that landlords are now-a-days in a position to use arbitrary methods.

Ejectments other than for arrears.

52. Ejectment suits again showed a regrettable rise from 138,662 to 167,366 which was shared by all the districts except Fatehpur, Allahabad, and Mirzapur. The Rohilkhand and Gorakhpur divisions had the largest increases and these two divisions account for nearly half of the total number of suits filed. Of the districts Basti had the largest increase and was followed by Moradabad and Budaun. The landlords' ancient dislike for occupancy rights has been accentuated of recent years by the difficulties of obtaining enhancement of occupancy rents in proportion to the increased monetary value of produce. Their incomes have not risen to an extent commensurate with the increased cost of living and they feel that they have been deprived of their proper share of the benefits conferred on agriculturists by high prices.

Protected area.

53. Excluding the Naini Tal district the total area held by tenants with occupancy rights fell from 10,178,843 to 10,165,799 acres. There were decreases in all districts except Saharanpur, Muzaffarnagar, and Gorakhpur where revision of records in connection with settlement operations converted land recorded as non-occupancy of more than 12 years' standing into occupancy land. The whole area protected either by occupancy right or continuous tenure for 12 years continued to rise and reached 67·6 per cent., of the total tenants, area. At the same time the area subject to leases for seven years or more, after falling in the previous two years rose from 907,912 to 915,723 acres, the increases taking place in the Gorakhpur, Rohilkhand, Allahabad, and Jhansi divisions. If all these forms of protection are taken together the grand total of the protected area comes to 71·9 per cent of the total area held by tenants.

Rent litigation in Oudh.

54. Suits and applications under the Oudh Rent Act exclusive of applications for ejectment, continued to fall in number, and were only 33,967 against 36,687 in the previous year. The largest decreases were in suits for arrears of rent and relinquishments and by far the largest increase was in suits to contest enhancement and ejectment. The fall in the number of arrears of rent suits occurred in all the districts except Hardoi and Unao, and this is explained by the fact that the Fyzabad division and the other districts of the Lucknow division fared comparatively well in the previous year. The case was nearly the same as regards relinquishments. There had been a heavy drop in notices for ejectment in the previous year owing to unfavourable conditions, and with the return of prosperity a rise was to be expected. The actual increase however, viz., from 24,114 to 43,354, was abnormally large and may be attributed to the same cause that has been noticed in Agra, namely the desire of the landlords to share in the benefits conferred by the rise in the value of the produce. It is believed that the object of the large majority of these notices is to obtain *nazrana*. The largest increases in notices for ejectment occurred in Hardoi and Unao, and only one district, Bahraich, showed a decrease

Rent court work.

55. There was a large increase in the number of institutions with the result that the number of cases for disposal rose from 5,44.306 to 6,38,983. Of these, 4,52,260 cases were disposed of as compared with 3,75,876 in the previous year, the pending file rising from 1,68,397 to 1,86,723.

In Oudh the number of cases for disposal rose from 85,033 to 1,11,331 but the pending file decreased from 2,059 to 1,500.

Appeals to Collectors under the Agra Tenancy Act rose from 4,756 to 5,354, while the number of appeals to Deputy Commissioners in Oudh decreased from 1,108 to 1,034. In Kumaun the figures were nearly the same as in the previous year. The number of appeals to Commissioners for disposal rose from 10,337 to 12,398 and Commissioners were quite unable to deal with the suddenly increased burden of work, with the result that the total number of cases pending at the close of the year rose from 3,363 to 6,513. Additional assistance is required in some divisions. The number of appeals to district judges rose from 1,699 to 1,721.

Mutation in revenue papers.

56. Changes of all kinds in proprietary rights recorded during the year fell from 3,40,428 to 2,96,282. The volume of work, however, was still abnormal. The recorded successions were 1,71,370 compared with 2,38,346 in 1918-19 and 1,20,315 in 1917-18. The mass of work to be dealt with in the previous year due to the influenza epidemic had caused arrears to accumulate, and a complete return to normal conditions was therefore impossible. Sales of revenue-paying lands by order of courts rose from 3,092 to 3,276 and of revenue-free lands from 93 to 135. The total number of mutations owing to orders of courts was 8,524 compared with 7,506 in the previous year.

Partition cases.

57. After decreasing in the two preceding years the partition file of the province increased substantially. New institutions numbered 4,017 against 3,312 and the total number for disposal was 9,367 against 8,861.

Disposals however were good, amounting to 3,877 against 3,509 and the pending file increased only from 5,350 to 5,490. New institutions were most numerous in Meerut, Basti, Gorakhpur, Bijnor, and Moradabad. The Board of Revenue proposes to place the whole of the partition work of the district under one officer where partition work is especially heavy. Steps in this direction have already been taken in Gorakhpur with satisfactory results. Most district officers devote much care to the question of compactness but there are several practical difficulties in the way and so far the principal result has been to substitute imperfect for perfect partitions. As was noted last year, the difficulties can only be removed by legislation.

CHAPTER III.—PROTECTION.

18.—Legislative authority.

58. The elections for the reformed Legislative Council were held in October, and the Council came into existence with effect from the 3rd of January, 1921. It consists of 100 elected members and 21 non-elected members.

19.—Course of legislation.

59.—Under the old Council, Amending Acts were passed during the year to the United Provinces Land Revenue Act (Act no. III of 1901), the Agra Tenancy Act (Act no. II of 1901), and the United Provinces Village Courts Act of 1892. The last-named Act was repealed by an amendment to the United Provinces Village Panchayat Act of 1920 in the local areas where that Act might be applied.

In addition the following new local Acts which do not repeal, modify or amend any previous Act were passed during 1920:—

(1) The United Provinces Minor Irrigation Works Act, 1920 (Act no. I of 1920).
(2) The United Provinces Private Irrigation Works Act, 1920 (Act no. II of 1920).
(3) The Canning College and British Indian Association Contribution Act, 1920 (Act no. IV of 1920.)
(4) The Lucknow University Act, 1920 (Act no. V of 1920).
(5) The Agra Estates Act, 1920 (Act no. VII of 1920).

20.—Police.

(For details see the annual report on the administration of the Police department for the year ending 31st December, 1920, and the tables under the head "Police" in Part VI—Statistics of British India.)

Crime statistics.

60. Conditions during the year were generally favourable; the agricultural classes were prosperous and there was a strong demand for labour. The general prosperity is reflected in the crime returns, which show a marked decrease in practically all classes of offences against property. The total number of offences reported, including true cases reported to Magistrates fell from 1,75,552 to 1,34,007. The decrease was most marked in the returns of serious offences against persons and property which were 22 per cent. lower than in any of the previous twenty years.

Investigations.

61. The percentage of convictions to cases investigated was much the same as in the previous year, 40·09 as against 40·45. No investigation was made in 14·55 per cent. of the crimes reported; 71 per cent of these cases came under the head of lurking house trespass and 28 per cent under the head of theft. In 1919 the percentage of cases not investigated was 18·24 and the decrease in the percentage is hardly satisfactory, in view of recent efforts to prevent such misapplication of energy.

Coin, stamps, and notes.

62. The number of true cases relating to coin, stamps, and notes rose from 68 to 76. Of these, 57 were tried out during the year, 50 ending in conviction.

Murders.

63. The number of murders fell from 824 to 696, murders by dacoits falling from 109 to 53. There was a less satisfactory decrease in the

percentage of cases successfully prosecuted. There was a welcome reduction in the number of murders of children for their ornaments, but a disquieting increase in the number of murders of zamindars, village headmen, and chaukidars. In Oudh there were no convictions of women for the murder of their infant children; in the Agra province there were fourteen such cases, in all of which sentence was reviewed by the High Court or the Local Government.

Poisoning

64. There was a fairly large increase in the number of true cases of poisoning. Excluding murders by poison they numbered 102. The total number of convictions fell from 26 to 15. So far as can be judged cases in which professional poisoners were concerned totalled 45, more than half that number occurring on railways. The large proportion of such cases which go undetected is unsatisfactory.

Dacoities.

65. The number of reported cases of dacoity fell from 1,502 to 694, this being less than in any of the previous six years. The decrease was most marked in the case of attacks on houses. In the words of the Government resolution reviewing the year's work, "no feature is more satisfactory than the success met with in the campaign against dacoity." Success in investigation and prosecution was somewhat less than in the previous year, but compares most favourably with any other year since 1909. Out of 271 cases tried 213 convictions were obtained, 1,030 persons being convicted out of 1,854 brought to trial. A particularly satisfactory feature was that most of the important armed gangs operating in the province appear to have been broken up. The police, the people, and the authorities of the neighbouring States on the southern borders of the province all contributed their share to this success. It is noticeable that in most cases in which villagers put up some resistance and succeeded in injuring even one of their assailants, clues were obtained which ultimately led to the arrest of whole gangs: this demonstrates the need of encouraging villagers to defend themselves.

Robbery, burglary and theft.

66. The number of cases of robbery reported fell from 917 to 712. Results, though not quite as good as in 1919, were better than in any other year since 1910, more than one-fourth of the cases ending in conviction. The percentage of cases convicted to cases disposed of fell from 83 to 81 and that of persons convicted to persons tried out from 55 to 50. The number of persons acquitted was still comparatively large. Robberies were most numerous in Aligarh, Shahjahanpur, Bareilly, and Meerut. The marked difference between the figures for dacoity and robbery in several districts raises a doubt as to whether reporting under this head is altogether trustworthy.

The number of burglaries reported was the lowest on record, being 47,392, one-third less than the number, 71,162, recorded in the previous year. This satisfactory result is attributed to intelligent use of the preventive sections. Unfortunately there has been no corresponding improvement in the detection of this form of crime. The percentage of cases convicted to cases reported was 9, the same as in the previous year. The percentages of cases convicted to cases disposed of and of persons convicted to tried out were 89 and 42 respectively, as compared with 90 and 42 in 1919.

The number of theft cases for disposal fell from 39,745 to 31,478. This also is the lowest figure on record. The decrease, which was general, was largest in Budaun, Hardoi, Cawnpore, and Bareilly. Cases tried to conclusion numbered 7,371, of which 6,674 ended in conviction. The percentage of cases convicted to cases disposed of fell from 91 to 90 and that of persons convicted to tried out from 60 to 48. The latter fall was most marked in magisterial cases.

Cattle theft.

67. Cases of cattle theft decreased by more than one-quarter. There were 4,588 cases for disposal as compared with 6,424 in 1919 and convictions fell from 1,848 to 1,174. The statistics show that this class of crime returned to more or less its normal level in 1920, and that slightly more success was met with in dealing with it than in the three years ending with 1918. Variations in the figures from year to year are believed to represent the difference between the seasons more than anything else, the figures of cattle theft being more directly affected by agricultural conditions than other forms of crime.

Criminal tribes.

68. The salient features of the year's working in connection with criminal tribes were the registration of all gipsies, and the restriction of the movements of gipsies and of sections of the semi-domiciled tribes to certain definite areas. This resulted in a large increase in the total registered population from 27,290 to 35,902, the number of persons whose movements were restricted rising from 3,958 to 11,825.

The various settlements and schools contained 2,413 registered and 1,024 unregistered persons at the end of the year, the figures for 1919 being 2,383 and 1,122 respectively. The unregistered inmates of these institutions are the juvenile community under 18 years of age. During 1920 the Gorakhpur school was closed and since the commencement of 1921 the Rajpur settlement has been abandoned. The inmates have been distributed in other schools and settlements. A new feature embarked on during the year was the Kalianpur (Cawnpore) settlement, the construction of which was nearing completion at the end of the year. It will be on a more ambitious scale than any of the existing settlements. Its main object is to provide regular and remunerative employment for the better behaved members of criminal tribes of the smaller settlements.

Surveillance.

69. The history sheets of 31,075 persons were maintained at the commencement of the year. No less than 9,256 fresh sheets were opened during 1920 and 9,012 closed. The balance at the close of the year was therefore 31,319. Of this number 7,222 related to convicts who were in jail and 3,815 to untraced persons. Of the 9,012 sheets closed during the year, 6,792 were discontinued owing to alleged reformation, and 2,220 owing to death or emigration. Of the closing balance 6,246 concerned persons whose names were on the surveillance register, as compared with 7,481 last year. There are considerable variations between districts both as regards the number of history sheets maintained and the number of persons under surveillance and it is doubtful whether sufficient attention is given in some districts to the important question of surveillance.

Finger Print Bureau.

70. The work of the bureau staff was exceptionally heavy during 1920. This was due to the fact that the registration of wandering gipsies, which was undertaken during the year, resulted in an abnormal number of slips being submitted for classification and record. The actual figure was 29,292, which was higher by 5,500 than the previous maximum (in 1914) and exceeded the 1919 total by over 11,000.

Slips sent for search fell from 17,486 to 13,688. The percentage successfully traced was 19·8. The number of absconders whose identity was established through such slips was 223 compared with 333 in 1919. The majority of those persons were, as usual, offenders against the Criminal Tribes Act.

Experts gave oral evidence in 374 cases as against 256 last year, and the number of written opinions furnished rose from 505 to 577. It is satisfactory that the value of the bureau is receiving greater recognition year by year. At the same time the increasing number of such calls enhances the need for a larger staff.

Absconded offenders.

71. The year opened with 2,973 names on the register of absconded offenders; 1,312 names were added and 1,367 struck off, leaving a closing balance of 2,918.

Co-operation with Indian States.

72. Relations with neighbouring States continued to be very satisfactory. Help was received by district police officers from the officials of Nepal, Gwalior, Dholpur, Bharatpur, Dattia, Rewah, Orchha, Rampur, and Benares States. The break-up of dangerous bands of dacoits in Bundelkhand was, in no small measure, due to the ready assistance received from neighbouring States.

Village headmen and chaukidars.

73. The number of village headmen decreased from 1,00,317 to 99,256. Reports by them are said to have decreased from 3,320 to 1,608, but too much importance should not be attached to these figures. It is believed that village headmen are consulted in the majority of cases before information is lodged with the police. There is no real reason to suspect that they showed any less energy than in previous years. The question of improving

the position of chaukidars was carefully considered by the Civil Police Committee. Their decision to recommend rewards for good service on a more liberal scale was based on the principle that the substantial recognition of good service would give better results than the enhancement of a retaining fee which admittedly was and must still remain far below the living wage of a whole-time servant. Orders have now been issued regarding the enhancement of the reward grant and the supply of clothing to chaukidars free of cost.

Strength and cost of the police.

74. The sanctioned strength of the regular police was increased by three inspectors, nine sub-inspectors, five head-constables, and five constables. There was a decrease of three (temporary) deputy superintendents. The total cost rose from Rs. 99·26 lakhs to about Rs. 131·92 lakhs. The increase was chiefly due to the revision of the pay of subordinate police from 1st April, 1920. The number of resignations fell from 1,718 to 1,444 and the number of desertions from 159 to 142. The majority of the resignations occurred during the first part of the year; with the introduction of the new scale of pay the position at once improved.

Punishments.

75. Fourteen officers and 281 men were dismissed as compared with 24 officers and 314 men in 1920; 86 officers and 666 men were punished departmentally or judicially.

Armed and mounted force.

76. Resignations in the armed police fell from 409 to 363. There is reason for believing that the old unpopularity of service in the armed branch is dying out. This is undoubtedly due in the main to the grant of the special allowance which all constables of this branch receive, and the creation of city allowances, in recognition of the fact that living costs considerably more in the larger cities than in other parts of the province. It has not yet been found possible to give effect to the recommendations of the Armed Police Committee referred to in last year's report, but the proposals made by it have received the formal approval of Government and details of the scheme to create a military police battalion are now under preparation. There was no change in the sanctioned strength and disposition of the mounted police, but once again it remained some 5 per cent. below strength throughout the year, and there is little doubt that this is chiefly due to the insufficiency of the existing horse allowance. The whole question of the cost of upkeep of horses and the extent to which it can be reduced by wholesale purchases is at present under consideration.

Railway police.

77. Crime on railways decreased by 9 per cent. chiefly under the head of theft. There were only three cases of dacoity as compared with 19 last year and one of them was only technically a dacoity. Robberies numbered 17, an increase of two on the figures for 1919. Indian sepoys were the culprits in five of these cases, as last year. Cases of poisoning rose from 17 to 23, most of them, it is suspected, being the work of professional poisoners. Thefts decreased from 7,940 to 7,138 and the improvement in dealing with such cases continued, 944 convictions being obtained compared with 965 in 1919. Thefts from running goods trains decreased by about one-third. Thefts from passengers increased from 1,557 to 1,740 and the work of the police in this respect is not so satisfactory.

Railway accidents.

78. Three serious collisions took place, the most important being the Mewa-Nawada accident which occurred on 26th April. Excluding suicides and attempted suicides, the total number of persons killed or seriously injured on railways rose from 446 and 523 respectively to 570 and 557, the increase being due to the accidents referred to. Attempts at derailment fell from 13 to 8; none of them were of a very serious nature.

Rural police.

79. The number of chaukidars rewarded fell from 13,509 to 12,646 and the amount distributed in rewards from Rs. 36,588 to Rs. 28,820. In some districts the number of chaukidars rewarded is still too few.

Training schools.

80. The Police Training School at Moradabad re-opened at the commencement of the year. There were 142 students for the 1920 session and the 138 who appeared at the final examination all passed. Fourteen Assistant and Deputy Superintendents were attached to the school for

training. Various questions connected with the school are at present under consideration.

Criminal Investigation Department.

81. The work of this department increased enormously during the year and proposals are under consideration for increasing the staff. It is true that the number of investigations fell from 71 to 67, but the figures are misleading. They take no account of cases in which enquiry was made partly by officers of this department and partly by the district or railway police, though such cases represent the greater portion of the investigation work done by the Criminal Investigation department. Further, it should be noted that a single enquiry by the department often relates to a whole series of offences committed at different times and in different districts. Cases investigated include an important case of theft of currency notes from the Raja of Amethi, several cases of cheating and forgeries of Government currency notes and enquiries into the large increase in the number of counterfeit coins in circulation. One large gang of counterfeiters was accounted for. The special branch was more busily employed than in any previous year. Most of its activity was concerned with political agitation. Some of its officers were employed for long periods in connection with the Anglo-Afghan conference.

Nine prosecutions for seditious speaking, etc., were instituted, all but two of which ended in conviction, these two cases being withdrawn for special reasons.

Buildings.

82. Financial exigencies coupled with shortage of labour and material led once again to much curtailment in the building programme. Budget provision was originally made for a total expenditure of Rs. 5·33 lakhs but only Rs. 3·64 lakhs of this was finally utilized over police buildings. Five new police stations and one outpost were completed or approached completion during the year. Married quarters were also added to a certain number of stations. The list of urgent demands which have hitherto passed unheeded owing to lack of funds becomes longer year by year. It is hoped that Government will before long be in a position to provide money for a considerably larger programme than has been possible of recent years and that economic conditions will permit of such sums being utilized when allotted.

21.—Criminal Justice.

(*For details see the annual reports on Criminal Justice for the year ending 31st December, 1920, and the tables under the head "Criminal Justice" in Part VI—Statistics of British India.*)

AGRA.

General.

83. The total number of sessions divisions remained at 18. Separate sessions divisions are to be constituted for Bulandshahr, Basti, and Muzaffarnagar as soon as the necessary buildings can be provided at those places. Temporary additional sessions judges worked for various periods in several districts. The scheme of investing subordinate judges with the powers of assistant sessions judges remained in force.

Number of trials.

84. Including cases pending from the previous year the total number of offences reported under the Penal Code fell from 1,11,613 to 1,06,248, and the number of cases returned as true from 80,855 to 74,957—a distinct improvement on the previous year. The number of cases brought to trial dropped from 72,854 to 64,449, and the number of persons who came under trial from 1,64,381 to 1,54,897.

The number of cases returned as true of offences reported against the State more than doubled. Offences against the public tranquillity, such as rioting and unlawful assembly, also increased to a marked degree. On the other hand, cases of false evidence, offences against public justice, and offences affecting the public health and safety show an appreciable reduction. There were also decreases in cases of hurt, kidnapping, theft, robbery, and dacoity. The figures for true cases of offences against the person vary little from those of the previous year. The decrease in the number of cases of offences against property is attributed to agricultural prosperity.

The number of reported offences against Special and Local Laws remained much the same —71,208—against 71,800 in the previous year, while the number of cases tried rose from 61,359 to 62,852. The explanation suggested last year for these high figures, namely improved supervision in local administration, is now confirmed. A notable increase of activity is to be found under the Municipalities Act, the number of cases brought to trial rising from 18,078 to 22,001. There was an appreciable drop in prosecutions under the Act for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, which is probably not justified by the facts. Railway offences dropped from 1,245 to 770, with 475 fewer persons involved. The Sanitation Act was employed much more freely, the number of prosecutions and accused being more than double those of the previous year.

The percentage of persons convicted to persons under trial fell from 43 to 40 in magistrates' courts, but rose from 66 to 67 in courts of session. The percentage of cases dismissed under section 203 of the Criminal Procedure Code rose from 20 to 21. The improvement noted last year in the matter of action taken under section 250 of the Code was not altogether maintained, the total number of persons fined falling from 457 to 405, though the amount of fines imposed under this section for making frivolous or vexatious complaints increased.

85. The average duration of cases in all courts stood at 10 days, the same figure as for years past. It dropped from 16 to 11 days in courts of district magistrates, and from 43 to 40 days in courts of session. **Duration of trials.**

86. The number of persons sentenced to death by sessions courts was 154 as compared with 184 in the previous year. Of these, 98 sentences were confirmed by the High Court, 32 persons were released, 11 obtained modification of sentence, two re-trials were ordered, and the cases of 11 were still pending at the close of the year. The number of persons sentenced to transportation for life fell from 745 to 398, and of those sentenced to rigorous imprisonment from 24,587 to 17,617. The number of sentences of whipping fell from 3,277 to 1,688; 148 of the persons sentenced being juveniles. **Punishments.**

87. The number of appellants dropped from 21,233 to 18,163, while applications for revision increased from 3,551 to 3,978. In 8,512 cases the appeal or application was rejected; in 8,754 the sentence or order was confirmed, and in 69 sentence was enhanced. In 3,487 cases the sentence was reversed and in 817 cases the proceedings were quashed. A new trial or further enquiry was ordered in 605 cases. The percentage of totally unsuccessful appellants and applicants for revision was 69 as against 76 in the previous year. **Appeals and revision.**

OUDH.

88. The number of offences reported fell from 61,322 to 57,547, a drop of over 6 per cent., but as the decrease was confined entirely to offences under special and local laws, it does not represent any real diminution in crime. Offences under the Indian Penal Code increased by 1·52 per cent. from 33,441 to 33,948. There was a fairly large increase in offences affecting the human body, and an almost equally marked decrease in offences against property. Thus cases of hurt increased by 1,599, while cases of theft fell by 1,169, and robbery and dacoity by 171. **Number of trials.**

Under Special Local and Laws there was a decrease in the number of offences reported from 27,881 to 23,599. The decrease occurrred chiefly in offences under the Municipalities Act, Hackney Carriages Act, and the Police (District) Act.

The number of accused under trial fell from 93,510 to 92,201 and the percentage of convictions from 41 to 33.

89. The average duration of trials was 9·11 days in magisterial and 48·34 days in sessions courts as compared with 9·53 and 48·7 in 1919. The figure for magisterial courts is the lowest for the last six years, while the duration in sessions courts on the other hand has increased by nearly 50 per cent. since 1916. **Duration of trials.**

90. Fifty-one persons were sentenced to death and 87 to transportation for life as against 74 and 217 respectively in 1919. Sentences of whipping fell from 792 to 412. The number of persons sentenced to **Punishments.**

rigorous imprisonment fell from 7,850 to 5,235, and 22,916 persons were fined as against 27,104 in 1919.

Appeals and revisions.

91. The total number of appellants and applicants for revision was 5,499 as against 6,020 in the previous year. One thousand three hundred and ninety-five appeals or applications were rejected; and in 3,320 the sentences were upheld. There was no case of enhancement of sentence. In 538 cases the lower court's order was modified and in 924 the finding was reversed. Proceedings were quashed in five cases, while a new trial or further enquiry was ordered in 239 cases.

22.—Prisons.

(*For details see the annual report on the Jail department for the year ending the 31st December, 1920, and the tables under the head "Jails" in Part VI—Statistics of British India.*)

General.

92. The year opened with a total of 25,773 prisoners of all classes. During the year 77,593 were admitted and 77,979 discharged, there being 25,387 in confinement at the end of the year. The daily average number of prisoners of all classes was 24,808 against 31,206 in the previous year. There was little variation in the Jail population from month to month, a slight fall in May being due to a special release of prisoners in honour of the visit of the Indian Jails Committee to these provinces.

The year opened with 99 civil prisoners; 1,068 were received during the year, or 14 more than in 1919; 1,059 were discharged, leaving a balance at the end of the year of 108.

Punishments.

93. The number of serious offences committed by prisoners necessitating trial and punishment by criminal courts fell from 23 to 11. The total number of jail offences shows an increase, from 23,311 to 25,307, but the increase appears to have been chiefly in minor offences and was probably due to greater vigilance on the part of jail officials. The number of convicts who escaped from the jails was 11, of whom 7 were recaptured. Floggings numbered 22 as compared with 23 in 1919.

Expenditure.

94. The total expenditure incurred in guarding and maintaining prisoners amounted to Rs. 27,36,657 against Rs. 31,47,561 in the previous year, the decrease being due to the considerable fall in the number of prisoners. The total cost per head rose from Rs. 100-13-9 to Rs. 110-5.

Employment.

95. The total cash profit made by the jail factories during the year was Rs. 4,72,293, as compared with Rs. 4,88,787 in 1919. The decrease is due to the fall in the prison population, and the rise in the average cash earnings per prisoner.

Health.

96. There was again an improvement in health and the death rate was only 17 per mille against 24·4 in 1919, but it is still well above the average for the seven years previous to the influenza year of 1918.

Juvenile jail at Bareilly.

97. The number of juvenile convicts admitted to the jails was 106 as compared with 167 in 1919. Of these, all non-habituals who were eligible were transferred to the Juvenile jail at Bareilly. The daily average number of juvenile prisoners in this jail was 236 as compared with 241 last year. The necessity for providing a jail for the reception and reformative education of habitual juveniles has been recognized, and funds allotted for the purpose. The actual construction of the jail, however, has been postponed pending the receipt of the recommendations of the Jail Committee.

23.—Civil Justice.

(*For details see the annual reports on Civil Justice for the year ending 31st December, 1920, and the tables under the head "Civil Justice" in Part VI—Statistics of British India.*)

Agra.

Original suits.

98. The total number of suits instituted in the civil courts of the Agra province rose from 152,368 to 158,363, thereby exceeding even the phenomenal figures of the years 1916 and 1917. The increase occurred

chiefly in munsifs' courts, small cause courts, and subordinate judges' courts. Suits for money or movable property were the heads responsible for the largest increase, but, as last year, suits of other denominations also contributed in varying proportions to the rise. The rise in the number of suits of larger values was specially marked. The increase generally is attributed to freedom from epidemics, a good *rabi* harvest, increased stability of financial conditions, and recovery of trade, which gave all classes of the population more leisure and means to pursue the path of litigation.

The number of suits before the courts rose from 182,235 to 186,979, and disposals from 153,170 to 163,825. The pending file rose by 497.

Appeals.

99. The number of civil court appeals rose from 12,672 to 14,405. A rise of 1,603 in District Judges' courts was mainly responsible for the increase. The pending file rose from 4,842 to 5,006.

High Court.

100. Appeals before the High Court rose from 5,463 to 5,737, and the pending file from 3,581 to 3,771.

Application for execution of decrees.

101. Applications instituted for execution of decrees rose from 145,433 to the high figure of 156,755. There was a very satisfactory increase of 11,809 in the number of disposals, and the pending file was reduced by 1,508. The percentage of fructuous applications throughout the judgeships was 48, the same as in the two previous years.

Village and honorary munsifs.

102. The total number of village courts was 246, four more than in the previous year. Of these, the number of courts actually working was 182, as compared with 167 in 1919. The large proportion of the courts in Gorakhpur again remained inactive. The districts of Budaun, Shahjahanpur, Mainpuri, and Bareilly utilized these courts to a considerable extent, but they do not seem to have found so much favour elsewhere. Institutions fell from 13,259 to 12,517 and disposals from 12,844 to 12,342. The pending file was reduced from 390 to 291.

Honorary munsifs decided 7,416 cases as compared with 5,596 in 1919. The number of courts increased from 22 to 26.

OUDH.

Suits.

103. The total number of suits instituted fell from 67,510 to 66,469, or 1·54 per cent. The decrease is most marked in suits for money and movable property, especially in those of a petty nature dealt with in small cause courts. It was partly neutralized by an increase in the number of suits on the ordinary side. In munsifs' courts the number of suits rose from 18,386 to 20,500, and in subordinate judges' courts from 2,499 to 2,800. There was a general increase in the number of suits relating to immovable property and pre-emption. Matrimonial and mortgage suits also increased to some extent. Disposals increased from 68,041 to 68,870.

Appeals.

104. The number of regular appeals for disposal during the year was 2,836 as against 2,448 in the previous year. Of these, 2,027 were decided as compared with 2,164 in 1919.

Judicial Commissioner's court.

105. The number of regular appeals for disposal in the Judicial Commissioner's court was 874 as against 1,005 last year. Of these, 551 were decided, leaving a balance of 323, as compared with a balance of 329 in 1919.

Applications for execution of decrees.

106. The number of applications before the courts for the execution of decrees fell from 66,176 to 64,528, of which 56,239 were disposed of, leaving a balance at the end of the year of 8,289 as against 9,047 the year before. There was a slight increase in the percentage both of wholly fructuous and of wholly infructuous applications.

Village and honorary munsifs.

107. Village courts decreased from 84 to 78, and institutions from 6,399 to 4,629. The number of cases decided was 4,532 as against 6,296 in 1919.

The number of honorary munsifs increased by three. They disposed of 4,844 suits as against 4,419 in the previous year.

KUMAUN.

Suits.

108. In Kumaun the number of civil suits instituted rose from 5,938 to 6,426, an increase of 410 occurring in Garhwal, of 76 in Naini Tal, and of two in Almora. There was a marked increase in Garhwal in suits for money and movable property, which is attributed partly to a succession of inferior

harvests tending to drive creditors into the Law Courts, and partly to the large amount of money brought into the district by the War. There was a large increase in the value of suits from Rs. 5·82 to Rs. 7·39 lakhs. It occurred in all districts, but was greatest in Almora and Garhwal. The number of suits for disposal rose from 6,660 to 7,274, and the pending file from 935 to 1,080.

Appeals. 109. The number of appeals from decrees rose from 327 to 348. Forty-two remained pending at the close of the year, including 19 in the Commissioner's court.

Execution of decrees. 110. There was a decrease in the number of applications for execution of decrees, from 3,383 to 3,151. Of these, 397 against 472 remained pending at the close of the year. Complete or partial satisfaction was obtained in 34 per cent. of the applications disposed of in Naini Tal, in 35 per cent. in Almora and in 59 per cent. in Garhwal.

24.—Registration.

(*For details see the report on Registration for the year ending the* 31*st December*, 1920, *and the tables under the head "Registration" in Part VI—Statistics of British India.*)

Registration. 111. The total number of all documents registered decreased from 344,822 to 298,849. The fall occurred in all classes of documents except in "Instruments of Perpetual lease," "Certified copies of decrees and orders of Courts," and "Written authorities to adopt." The decrease is due to the fact that the year 1919 was a record year for the number of documents registered. In 1920 registration reverted to normal conditions, the number of documents registered being approximately equal to that of 1917, and considerably higher than that of 1918—a year of special depression owing to the War.

Financial. 112. The total receipts rose from Rs. 9,48,684 to Rs. 11,94,138, an increase of over 25 per cent. The rise in the income in spite of the decrease in the number of documents is due to the enhanced scale of registration fees with effect from the 1st April, 1920. Expenditure increased by Rs. 93,950, due to enhancement of pay of sub-registrars, and of the ministerial and menial establishments.

Prosecution. 113. There were three prosecutions under the Registration Act during the year. Convictions were obtained in all cases.

Inspections. 114. Inspections decreased from 463 to 457.

25.—Municipal Administration.

Constitution. 115. No change occurred in the number of municipalities during the year, nor was there any alteration in the constitution of any of the municipal boards. During the course of the year, however, the constitution of the Allahabad municipal board was revised to have effect from the 1st April, 1921. The board now consists of 29 elected and six nominated members, 11 of the elected members being Muslims and the remainder non-Muslims.

Chairman. 116. The boards of Mussoorie and Mirzapur elected non-official chairmen for the first time, thus raising the number of non-official chairmen in the province from 70 to 72 out of a total of 84.

Taxation. 117. No change occurred in the powers of municipalities as regards taxation. Octroi was still in force in 26 municipalities at the close of the year, but it has since been replaced by terminal tax and toll in Banda, Khurja, Pilibhit, Dehra, Kasganj, Farrukhabad, and Etawah. Several boards have been permitted to retain octroi.

Financial receipts. 118. The total municipal income, excluding loans and advances, fell from Rs. 114·77 to Rs. 112·18 lakhs. The decrease was mainly due to reduced receipts under the head of "Miscellaneous." The incidence of taxation rose from Rs. 2-5-3 to Rs. 2-5-9 per head of population.

Octroi and terminal taxation receipts. 119. Receipts from octroi fell from Rs. 34·17 to Rs. 30·91 lakhs, this being chiefly due to its abolition in the Hardwar and Agra municipalities, referred to in last year's report. Receipts from terminal tax and toll

rose, mainly for the same reason, from Rs. 8·63 and Rs. 1·98 to Rs. 10·35 and Rs. 3·66 lakhs respectively. There were marked improvements during the year in the octroi receipts in several municipalities, while many municipalities reported a decline in income from terminal tax and toll. In the former cases the increase is ascribed to better trade conditions, and the rise in the price of cloth and other commodities. Various reasons are given for a decline in income from terminal taxation, but it seems clear that in some cases it is due to evasion. Steps have been taken to prevent this in future and schedules are being revised with a view to an increase in revenue.

Receipts from taxes other than octroi and terminal taxation.

120. There was a small but satisfactory increase in the municipal income from taxes other than octroi and terminal taxation, the total income rising from Rs. 24·61 to Rs. 25·41 lakhs. Receipts decreased under three heads: under the head of Conservancy by Rs. 2,000, under that of pilgrim tax by Rs. 18,000, and under the head of tax on animals for slaughter by Rs. 2,000. Under all other heads there was a rise, the most noticeable being one by Rs. 9,000 under house tax, of Rs. 12,000 under Animals and vehicles tax, of Rs. 27,000 under tolls on roads and ferries, and of Rs. 26,000 under the tax on circumstances and property. The rise under the head of tax on circumstances and property was mainly due to the addition of Kanauj to the list of municipalities in the previous year. The decrease under the head of pilgrim tax was principally due to the fact that the proceeds of the Ram Naumi fair at Fyzabad were included in the receipts of the previous year. Under house tax the chief increase occurred at Muzaffarnagar, Benares, Naini Tal, and Sultanpur. A tax on animals and vehicles was imposed for the first time in Fyzabad, and increases under this head occurred in Cawnpore, Allahabad, and Benares. There was an appreciable increase under tolls on roads and ferries in Hathras, Farrukhabad, and Kashipur. This tax was imposed in Sultanpur during the year. Income from water tax showed an improvement in Muttra and Agra.

Receipts from sources other than taxation.

121. The total income under the head of income from sources other than taxation was Rs. 41·84 lakhs as against Rs. 45·39 lakhs in the previous year. Under the head of "Miscellaneous" there was a fall of Rs. 4·18 lakhs. In other respects the variations from the previous year were comparatively slight. Realizations under Special Acts increased by Rs. 12,000, while income derived from municipal property fell by Rs. 33,000. Income from sale of water rose by Rs. 36,000 and from fairs and licence fees by Rs. 8,000, but there was a decrease under other sub-heads, notably one of Rs. 30,000 under interest on investments. The income from grants and contributions rose by Rs. 86,000.

Grants.

122. Grants from Government amounted to Rs. 6·63 lakhs for general, Rs. 1·81 lakhs for educational, and Rs. 35,070 for medical purposes. The corresponding figures for the previous year were Rs. 5·36 lakhs, Rs. 1·79 lakhs, and Rs. 43,658 respectively.

Loans.

123. The loans taken during the year totalled Rs. 4·65 lakhs as compared with Rs. 1·50 lakhs in the previous year. Rupees 6·21 lakhs were repaid as compared with Rs. 8·07 lakhs in 1919-20.

Expenditure.

124. Expenditure rose by Rs. 11·71 lakhs from Rs. 107·12 to Rs. 118·83 lakhs as compared with a rise of Rs. 2·62 lakhs in the previous year. The increases were general and were again due in the main to revision of pay and rise in the cost of material. The most noticeable increases were under the heads of General Administration (+Rs. 76,000), Collection of taxes and tolls (+Rs. 1·03 lakhs), Lighting (+Rs. 4·73 lakhs) Water-supply (+Rs. 2·92 lakhs), Drainage (+Rs. 1·45 lakhs), Conservancy (+Rs. 1·71 lakhs), Sanitation (+Rs. 96,000), Schools and Colleges (+Rs. 1·27 lakhs). Decreases occurred under the heads of Fire establishment (—Rs. 20,000), Hospitals and dispensaries (—Rs. 39,000), Work done for private individuals (—Rs. 48,000), and Miscellaneous (—Rs. 2·84 lakhs).

Water-works.

125. Efforts were made in some municipalities to increase the receipts from the supply of water, but the expenditure and income in this matter are still far from balancing. Small improvements were effected in the water-works of some municipalities during the year which enabled them to avert a breakdown, but little was done to put matters permanently on a sounder

basis. The position is still very serious in most of the more important municipalities. Good progress was made with the Naini Tal hydro-electric scheme.

Drainage. 126. Progress was made during the year on minor drainage schemes, but little was done towards the carrying out of the larger schemes which the more important municipalities have in view. In Allahabad the Kydganj drainage scheme has been completed. The Moradabad drainage scheme has also been nearly completed. Some progress was also made on the Dehra Dun drainage scheme. The Cawnpore scheme could not be proceeded with owing to the failure of the contractors. In other cases questions of finance are delaying the carrying out of large drainage projects.

Lighting. 127. There was a general increase in lighting charges though, as last year, this resulted in very little improvement in lighting arrangements, the rise being mainly due to the increased cost of oil, and renewal of lamps and other lighting accessories. Several boards have electric schemes on foot, but so far, except at Naini Tal, little progress has been made with carrying them into effect.

Education. 128. Expenditure on education increased from Rs. 8·44 to Rs. 9·71 lakhs. There was a general rise in all divisions except in the Gorakhpur, Fyzabad, and Kumaun divisions where there was little change. The number of boys' primary schools managed by the boards increased by 14, and aided schools by 5, but the number of students in them fell by 982. As regards secondary education there was a decline in the number of schools managed or aided by municipal boards as well as in the number of scholars. Schools decreased by 24 and scholars by 3,626. On other hand there was an increase of 550 in the number of girl students though there was one less girls' school than in the previous year. The boards increased their expenditure on female education from Rs. 1·58 to Rs. 1·82 lakhs.

Vaccination. 129. Vaccination work performed by municipalities during the year showed a decrease as compared with that of the preceding year. The total number of primary vaccinations was 92,263, and that of re-vaccinations 15,641; as compared with 95,826 and 26,484, respectively in 1919-20. Successful primary vaccinations and re-vaccinations numbered 86,987 and 7,895 respectively as against 87,742 and 12,725 in the preceding year. Almora, which stood fourth last year, heads the list of best-protected municipalities. Then come Ghazipur, Etah, Gonda, Naini Tal, and Gorakhpur. Among the least-protected municipalities are Mainpuri, Rae Bareli, Sikandra Rao, Brindaban, Fatehpur, Hardwar, and Farrukhabad.

Vital Statistics. 130. There was little change in the municipal birth rate, which was 40·47 per thousand of the population as compared with 40·63 in the previous year. There was a slight increase in the death rate from 42·87 to 43·76. The rate of infantile mortality rose from 292·17 to 303·24. Efforts are being continued for the reduction of infantile mortality but the figures would appear to show that so far they have had little effect.

General. 131. There is little that is new to say about municipal administration during the year. The financial position of many boards continues to be extremely unsatisfactory, not to say critical. A change in the system of taxation has in many cases led to a decline in revenue, while in all cases there has been a considerable increase in expenditure. At the same time there has been a demand, encouraging in itself, for the introduction of modern sanitary and lighting improvements, which in view of the state of the markets and of the exchanges has proved extremely difficult for the boards to finance. Few of them are self-supporting in the sense that they can look forward to a future of development on modern lines without assistance from Government. As regards internal politics it cannot be denied that some of the defects in municipal administration noticed in previous reports still exist. Occasionally a tendency is shown to mix up general politics with municipal affairs, and where this is the case it is becoming more and more difficult to frame and carry through any consistent policy. But the influence of the non-co-operation agitation on the members of the boards has not in general been very marked and it may be hoped that with the passing of the present phase of general unrest an improvement in the position may be looked for.

26.—District Boards.

(*For details see the annual report on the working of district boards for the year ending* 31*st March*, 1921, *and tables under the heads "Local Boards" in Part VIII—Statistics of British India.*)

Income

132. The aggregate income for the year declined from Rs. 157·60 to Rs. 152·81 lakhs. There was a large increase of Rs. 7·60 lakhs under the head of "Education" and small increases under the heads of "Provincial rates," "Police," and "Scientific, etc." Large decreases occurred under the heads of "Miscellaneous" and "Civil Works" of Rs. 8·69 and Rs. 5·72 lakhs respectively, and smaller decreases under the heads of "Interest" and "Medical." For the increase under the head of "Education" and the decrease under the head of "Civil Works" Government contributions are chiefly responsible. The large decrease under the "Miscellaneous" head is due to the discontinuance of the sale of standard cloth and salt through the district boards' agency. Nearly all divisions report a large increase in the income from pounds which is probably due to better supervision, high prices realized from the sale of cattle, opening of new pounds, and the large number of cattle impounded owing to scarcity of fodder.

Expenditure.

133. Expenditure rose from Rs. 140·42 to Rs. 152·13 lakhs. It was largely in excess of the figures of the previous year under nearly all heads except "Miscellaneous" and "Interest." There were increases of nearly Rs. 11 lakhs under the head of "Education" and of Rs. 5 lakhs under the head of "Civil Works." This was due to expansion of the educational and building programme financed by Government grants. Apart from this, the increase is mainly due to the rise in the cost of material and labour. The decrease under the "Miscellaneous" head is due to discontinuance of the sale of cloth and salt.

Education.

134. The number of boards' schools rose from 11,737 to 13,511, while the number of aided schools decreased from 2,490 to 2,452. The total number of scholars rose from 787,714 to 821,139. Education of all kinds contributed to the increase in expenditure under this head.

The following table shows the expenditure under the principal sub-heads for the last two years :—

	1919-20. Rs. in lakhs.	1920-21. Rs. in lakhs.
Training and special schools ...	5·16	6·37
Middle schools	6·33	8·56
Primary schools	36·19	43·65
Grants-in-aid.	2·21	2·51
Scholarships	1·08	1·24

As regards the progress of education generally, there is little new to note and the remarks made in last year's report might be repeated. While the increase in the number of scholars is substantial it is hardly commensurate with the increase in the number of schools. Both economic and political conditions militated against any great advance. Some progress has been made in the sphere of female education and with the education of the depressed classes, but in both cases it is at present confined to a few districts and much remains to be done before any general advance can be claimed.

Medical.

135. Travelling dispensaries are again reported to have done very useful work and were much appreciated. Lack of funds prevented the boards in most cases from adding to their medical facilities, especially as private support for their existing medical institutions appears to be on the decline.

Sanitation.

136. Once again it has to be noted that little definite progress has been made in the matter of rural sanitation. The policy of selecting a few districts to receive grants from Government, instead of distributing microscopic sums over all, was introduced, but not all the money was spent.

Vaccination.

137. The returns for vaccination in section 53 of this report may be consulted.

Vital statistics.

138. Separate returns of vital statistics are not available, but those given in section 49 may be consulted.

Arboriculture.

139. Arboriculture charges rose from Rs. 1·46 lakhs to Rs. 1·53 lakhs.

Civil Works.

140. The increase of over 4 lakhs in expenditure under the head of "Civil Works" was, as last year, mainly due to increased expenditure on educational buildings, financed chiefly by Government grants.

General.

141. Reference was made last year to the unsatisfactory state of district board administration. A Bill with a view to its amendment and the amendment also of the constitution of the boards has been introduced into the Legislative Council since the close of the year and is now under consideration. It is proposed to make the district boards of the future entirely elective save for the reservation of two seats to be filled by the nomination of the Local Government. It is also proposed to make them entirely non-official, to allow them considerable powers of taxation, and to relax, as far as possible, the internal and external control which at present cramps their activities.

CHAPTER IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

27.—Agricultural.

(*For details see the annual reports on the administration of the department of Agriculture for the year ending* 30*th June*, 1921, *on the administration of the Civil Veterinary department for the year ending* 31*st March*, 1921, *and on the working of Co-operative Credit Societies for the year ending* 30*th June*, 1921, *the tables in the "Agricultural Statistics of India" volume I, and those under the head "Co-operative Credit Societies" in Part II—Statistics of British India.*)

General.

142. A start has been made in carrying out the scheme of re-organization and development outlined in last year's report, but shortage of recruitment and the high price of machinery continued to check the rate of progress. Only three new officers were added to the provincial staff of the Indian Agricultural Service during the year, one being appointed Entomologist, and the other two Deputy Directors. There were no surplus Deputy Directors available, however, to carry out the scheme of expanding the present four circles into ten. It is hoped to open three new circles, Fyzabad, Rohilkhand, and Bundelkhand, at an early date. Twelve new posts were sanctioned during the year for the United Provinces Agricultural Service and twenty new posts for the Subordinate Agricultural Service. The Agricultural Engineer's staff has also been strengthened by the addition of a second agricultural engineer and three assistants.

In the reformed Legislative Council the keenest interest was taken in the development of the Agricultural department, and much shrewd criticism and valuable advice were offered. Criticism was directed especially against some of the farms managed by the department. It is admitted that demonstration farms should pay their own way, and it is probable that where they have failed to do so the fault is to be found in lack of supervision, due to the present shortage of staff. The case of experimental and research farms is different, as their aim is to experiment with new varieties and methods and experiments are bound to involve a certain number of failures.

Agricultural College.

143. The number of applications received for admission to the Cawnpore Agricultural College shows that the demand for agricultural education is steadily growing and that the value of this education is appreciated by landowners. One hundred and sixty-six applications for admission were received, but only fifty-eight of the applicants could be admitted. Of these, fourteen joined the College with a view to learning how to manage their own estates and eight were sent by the owners of large properties who wish to employ them as land agents. During the year the Government appointed a committee to consider the question of affiliating this College and the Thomason College, Roorkee, to the Allahabad University. The Committee reported in favour of application, and Government, accepting this recommendation, have recently announced that the College, like the Roorkee College, will be associated with the reformed University of Allahabad. Steps to this end are now being taken. It is also proposed to alter the present system

under which two different types of agricultural education are given at the College. The present two-year course, which combines school-work with agricultural training, does not require the costly equipment and staff necessary for a university degree course and can be carried out equally well and far more cheaply at agricultural schools. The course at the school at Bulandshahr will now be organized on similar lines to the two-year course at Cawnpore, but with such modifications as experience may suggest. The present buildings at Bulandshahr, which were erected for a school of different type, are inadequate. The school will be equipped on the scale of similar technical schools in England and America and sanction has been given to the preparation of the plans for the necessary buildings. It is hoped in the course of the next few years to establish several more agricultural schools, the equipment and training in which will be based on the experience gained at Bulandshahr.

Research and demonstration.

144. Research work on cotton, sugarcane, and wheat continued. As regards cotton, the position is still somewhat uncertain. Reliable information regarding the probable trend of the market in India and abroad is essential and much will depend on the advice and information supplied by the Indian Central Cotton Committee. At present the interests of the grower and spinner do not always appear to be identical; for while the grower finds that he can obtain a good financial return from one variety of cotton known as "Aligarh white-flowered," the representatives of the local spinning industry complain that this cotton is of little value to them.

A cotton survey was commenced during the season of 1919 and the survey of the cottons of the Moradabad district has now been completed. The research farm at Raya in the Muttra district is now fully equipped and in working order. The appointment of a botanist for the special study of indigenous cotton has been sanctioned.

As regards sugarcane the most important event of the year was the appointment of the Indian Sugar Committee whose report has been received since its close. The Committee have approved the lines on which research work is being conducted in this province and have made a large number of suggestions. The experiments which have been made at Shahjahanpur show that there is no reason why the yield of cane in this province should not be doubled.

The use of improved varieties of wheat continues to spread rapidly among the cultivators. The number of seed dépôts where the cultivator can obtain the best varieties is being steadily increased and is it proposed eventually to establish a seed dépôt in every tahsil.

Distribution of seed.

145. The seed dépôts are now almost entirely stocked with Pusa wheats. During the year 39,560 maunds of wheat were distributed to cultivators, as compared with some 30,000 last year.

Sale of implements.

146. There was an increasing demand for agricultural implements in spite of the high prices prevailing. The chief demand was for ploughs.

Manures.

147. There is nothing in particular to note this year on the subject of manures.

Agricultural engineering.

148. The progress made with the construction of tube-wells during the year was disappointing, mainly owing to the fact that engineering material has risen enormously in price and is very difficult to obtain. The success of tube-wells in this province has been established and the demand for such wells is at present altogether beyond the powers of the Agricultural department. A large grant for equipment and for the building of a workshop is being made and it is hoped that before long the agricultural engineer will be in a better position to satisfy this demand. The expansion of the staff of the engineering section which was sanctioned during the year has made it possible to increase the assistance given to zamindars. The necessity for a district engineering staff for the regular inspection of the machinery given out by the department, to give instruction in its use and to arrange for simple repairs, has long been felt; and although the complete organization proposed is not yet possible, a beginning has been made.

Well-boring.

149. The district well-boring staff, which during the year consisted of 33 borers, has now been placed under the Agricultural Engineer. The number

of wells bored during the year was 746, of which 513 are stated to be successful; 131 sites for new wells were bored and 84 were returned as successful.

Publications.

150. No bulletins were published during the year.

CIVIL VETERINARY DEPARTMENT.

Education.

151. This year only three students were selected for training at the Bengal Veterinary College and none for the Punjab, as the Punjab College have decided to change their session from April to October. A fair proportion of the students undergoing courses passed their examination. The United Provinces Veterinary Medical Society, which was started in 1912, is continuing to do good work. An Urdu Veterinary Journal is published monthly. The scheme for the establishment of a veterinary college at Lucknow is in progress, and estimates and plans in connection therewith are being prepared.

Disease.

152. The chief feature of the year was the very considerable decrease in the numbers of deaths from contagious disease, the total mortality being only 19,502 as compared with 42,715 in the previous year. Although there was a reduction in the death rate from other diseases the most striking decrease occurred under the head of "rinderpest" from 32,572 cases last year to 15,296. Of equine diseases eight cases of glanders were detected in five districts. Surra appeared in the district of Garhwal, where six animals either succumbed or were destroyed under the Glanders and Farcy Act as applied to surra. One hundred and ninety-two cases of strangles and 48 cases of tetanus were reported. Of bovine diseases rinderpest assumed a virulent form in seven districts. Forty-seven districts were affected altogether. Inoculations were carried out in 39 districts. Haemorrhagic septicaemia caused a total mortality of 1,324 as against 1,627 the year before. Many districts escaped its attack. Blackquarter was reported from 10 districts with a mortality of 201 as against 236 in 1919. Reports of anthrax were received from 19 districts and 454 animals perished. Last year the numbers were respectively 22 and 758. Thirty-five districts reported the existence of foot-and mouth diseases, the mortality being estimated at 11,446. Protective inoculations chiefly against rinderpest were undertaken in 525 outbreaks and 56,985 animals were inoculated as against 54,398 last year. The work of the laboratory on the investigation of disease much increased. The number of hospitals and dispensaries rose from 95 to 109 and the total number of cases treated from 116,953 to 127,390.

Breeding.

153. The number of stud bulls and buffaloes maintained by the department remained much the same. Thirty-six bulls and buffaloes were issued or sold in the year to district boards, etc., for stud work, 28 from the Kheri, and eight from the Madhuri Kund cattle farm. No purchases were made for the Kheri cattle farm during the year, while 38 cattle were purchased for the Madhuri Kund cattle farm. At the commencement of the year there were 78 horses and pony stallions at stud belonging to the department. Six were purchased during the year. Sixty-six stallions were at work as compared with 67 last year and the number of coverings amounted to 3,524, an increase of 56 over last year's figures. The progeny of these provincial stallions continues to show improvement particularly in the districts of Saharanpur, Budaun, Moradabad, and Shahjahanpur. The number of donkey stallions remained the same. Sixteen were at stud work and coverings numbered 870, an increase of 12. The sheep-breeding experiments continued, but an improvement in fineness and length of staple of the wool was gained at the expense of mutton carcase and robustness. A cross with a good mutton type is desirable and six Romney Marsh rams were imported for this purpose, but they did not survive long. It is proposed to import some rams of the Leicester or Romney breed from the warmer districts of Australia, which should prove better able to resist the conditions of climate here.

Establishment.

154. The strength of the subordinate establishment increased from 204 to 215 and the cost of the department from Rs. 1,80,464 to Rs. 2,34,985. The increase in cost is mainly due to the revision of pay and the general expansion of the department.

Co-operative societies.

General.

155. In spite of the continuance of a cautious policy and of adverse agricultural conditions, considerable progress was made during the year. Eight hundred and twenty-seven agricultural, 50 non-agricultural, and six central societies were added and resulted, after deducting the number of liquidated or amalgamated societies in a net increase of 725, 44, and 3 respectively. The increases in the number of agricultural credit and non-agricultural societies have been unprecedented since the inception of the movement. The working capital of central societies rose by Rs. 4·87 lakhs and that of primary societies rose by Rs. 9·61 lakhs in the case of agricultural and by Rs. 93,449 in the case of non-agricultural. The share capital, the reserve fund, and the profits of the agricultural primary societies have all increased and so have also the owned capital and the deposits of the central societies. The unfavourable nature of the season is reflected in the figures relating to recoveries, but they were only shorter by Rs. 3·20 lakhs than in the previous year. The notable feature of the growth of the movement in recent years including the year under report has been the opening up of new areas, so that the only untapped districts are now Pilibhit, Dehra Dun, and Almora. Developments in 1920-21, however, have partaken more of the nature of extension to unbroken tahsils and tracts under existing banks than of expansion to new districts. A gratifying feature of the year's administration was the extensive development of non-agricultural co-operation. Thirteen out of the new 44 non-agricultural societies are non-credit. The growth of such societies has been stimulated by the appointment of two Junior Assistant Registrars especially for this branch of work.

A successful agricultural and industrial exhibition, entirely financed by co-operative societies, was held at Lucknow in January, 1921, its object being the display of the products of co-operative societies and generally of manufactures of the province which can with advantage be produced by co-operative methods.

A co-operative Durbar was held at the same time with the object of reviewing and encouraging co-operative effort, and the Provincial Conference also held a session.

The movement continued to receive ready assistance from the department of Agriculture. Improved seeds and agricultural implements are being increasingly introduced in societies. An agricultural supply society has been registered at Hardoi and is being run with the help of the Board of Agriculture and the Agricultural department.

The proportion of cancellations to registrations has considerably fallen. Only 111 societies were dissolved as compared with 387 in the preceding year.

Central societies.

156. The total number of central societies working at the close of the year was as follows:—

District banks	... 30
Central banks	... 28
Central banking unions	... 8
Guaranteeing unions	... 10
Non-credit central societies	... 2
Total	... 78

Loans to individual members are now severely discouraged and no fresh loans of this class were made. Loans due from individual members decreased from Rs. 78,035 to Rs. 46,031. Advances and recoveries were both better than in the preceding year. The realizations from primary societies alone showed a decrease, which is obviously due to bad seasons. The proportion of arrears to the total outstandings has, however, considerably gone down. It is only 37 per cent. as against 42·3 per cent. in the preceding year, and in the case of primary societies alone 42 per cent. as against 49·4 per cent. The position of a few banks still requires careful handling.

Rural societies.

157. The number of agricultural credit societies increased by 827, which is the highest increase ever recorded in one year. Membership increased by 12,529, the working capital by Rs. 9·6 lakhs, and the owned capital

from Rs. 20·9 lakhs to Rs. 23·43 lakhs. The rate of progress has been much more marked in the number of societies than in the number of members or the amount of working capital. This is the inevitable result of the policy of extreme caution which has been pursued in recent years. The aggregate undistributed profits amounted to 20·8 per cent., and the whole owned capital to 37·9 per cent. of the working capital. The slight falling off in comparison with the figures of the previous year is due to the unusually large number of fresh organizations, which have small undistributed profits and owned capital in the earlier stages. Advances from societies to members were larger by Rs. 5·03 lakhs, while realizations declined by Rs. 1·46 lakhs in principal and Rs. ·98 lakh in interest. More money was given this year for payment of debts and for trade and purchase of cattle and less for purchase of seed and payment of rent.

The number and condition of non-credit agricultural primary societies remained unchanged. One non-credit central society was formed in Hardoi with the object of supplying improved seed and implements to its members, who consist mainly of the agricultural primary societies and individual agriculturists of districts. This society has made an excellent start.

Urban societies.

158. The number of non-agricultural credit societies increased from 20 to 38. Seven limited societies were formed among weavers, five among Mission preachers and workers, and five amongst officials of various offices. The working capital of these societies rose from Rs. 2·75 to Rs. 3·95 lakhs and the profits from Rs. 9,578 to Rs. 17,555. The unlimited liability societies consist of artisans of various classes, such as weavers, shoemakers, leather-workers, bangle-makers, and of petty shopkeepers. The working capital of this class of societies increased by Rs. 14,866.

The most important addition to the class of non-agricultural non-credit societies was the Hindustan Co-operative Store Limited, at Allahabad, which has been organized with the object of catering for the needs of the whole province. The store possesses an influential and able directorate and the present Minister of Education and Industries was one of its promoters. Altogether 13 non-agricultural primary societies were registered during the year. None was closed, but two were transferred to other classes. The total thus stands at 24, comprising four college stores, 17 general stores, one carpentry and iron-works society, one housing society, and one coolie agency. In view of the abolition of the *begar* system the management of the Supply and Transport Society, Garhwal, has been taken over by the Deputy Commissioner and the registration of the society will now have to be cancelled.

28.—Weather and Crops.

(*For details see the annual season and crop report for the year ending 30th June, 1921, the "Agricultural Statistics of British" India, "and Prices and Wages in India."*)

Character of the season.

159. The rainfall of the year under review was generally in defect throughout the provinces, and its distribution was not at all favourable. Most of the rain fell in the month of July; the fall in August was very much below the average; it was scanty in September, and October was practically dry, consequently the season on the whole from an agricultural point of view was far from satisfactory. In June the rainfall was above normal in the Meerut, Agra, Rohilkhand, Gorakhpur, and Kumaun divisions, but the rest of the provinces received only enough rain to give a start to agricultural operations. During the month of July the normal was exceeded throughout the provinces with the exception of parts of the Bundelkhand division. In August the falls, though general in the first half of the month, were scanty in the third week and only light to moderate in the fourth. With the exception of the Ballia and Gorakhpur districts, the rainfall in the month of September was scanty and below the normal throughout the provinces. The failure was more pronounced in the western districts, while among the eastern districts the Benares and Gorakhpur divisions fared better than the rest. The month of October was practically rainless, the temperature being abnormally high, and regular dry west winds rendered the situation serious. Thus *kharif* crops further deteriorated and prospects for *rabi* were rendered

unfavourable. The early *kharif* crop matured in some cases and in others it was a complete failure. The failure of the September rains ruined the late rice which is the principal crop of some of the districts. While rice, pulses, and *til* showed an improvement over the areas of the past year, all other crops fell short of the figures in that year and the yield of all the *kharif* crops was inferior.

The premature cessation of rain and the westerly hot winds in October not only severely affected the *kharif* crops but also, retarded *rabi* sowings in a number of districts. The peasants made every effort to sow as large an area as possible and wherever there was the least possibility of germination, but all in hopes of winter rains. The months of November and December were again practically rainless and the condition of standing crops became precarious. There was little rain in January until the third week, when there was a general fall which was fairly well distributed and proved of much value to the standing crops. In February there were only scanty showers and the month of March was again practically rainless. The early days of March were marked by strong westerly winds, and high temperatures. Naturally the outturn did not come up to expectations. Much of the grain was light in weight and that of the later sowings got shrivelled.

Cultivated area.

160. Although both the *kharif* and *rabi* areas were considerably below the figures of the last year, yet it is remarkable that the area under *rabi* fell by about four times the defect in *kharif*. The decline was 3 per cent. in the *kharif*, and 12 per cent. in the *rabi*. The *zaid*, however, showed an improvement of 9 per cent. over the figures of the preceding year. With the exception of early and late rice, the area under all other crops declined. Taking the provinces as a whole, the area under cotton fell by 10 per cent. but the Meerut and Lucknow divisions had marked increases. The area under sugarcane again exhibited a decline of 9 per cent.; the decrease was almost general throughout the provinces. Indigo also continued to show a decline owing to the heavy drop in its price and the rise in the cost of labour. The area under all the *rabi* crops though slightly above that of the year 1918-19, was practically the same as in the drought of the year 1913-14. With the exception of rapeseed, the area under all the other principal and secondary crops fell below the figures of the last year. Of all the divisions in the provinces Jhansi and Agra suffered most, with a fall of 27 and 22 per cent. respectively, while the Gorakhpur and Rohilkhand divisions exhibited falls of only 1 and 2 per cent. respectively. It is however satisfactory to note that the area under potatoes, one of the most useful auxiliary food-crops, maintained its improvement and exceeded the normal by 132 per cent.

Irrigation.

161. There was naturally an increase in the total area irrigated as compared with the previous season, the figures being 11,591,000 and 12,158,000 acres respectively. In all, the irrigated area amounted to 33 per cent. of the total area cultivated. Of this, 20 per cent. was irrigated from wells, 8 per cent. from canals, and 5 per cent. from other sources. In all the divisions of the provinces, omitting Jhansi, there was a considerable increase in the area irrigated from wells. The area irrigated from Government canals showed improvement only in the Rohilkhand, Jhansi, and Benares divisions, while in all other divisions served by canals, there was a falling off. The number of masonry wells in use increased by 16,888 and of non-masonry wells by 148,932.

Outturn.

162. In terms of a normal yield of 100 without taking into account the area sown, of the *kharif* crops cotton and sugarcane gave returns of 70, *mandua* 75, maize and early rice 60, *bajra* 65, *juar* 55, and late rice 50. The *rabi* outturn was better and the yield for the province was estimated at 75 per cent. of the normal. As compared with the normal yield of 100, barley had a return of 85, gram and linseed of 80, and wheat of 75.

Prices.

163. Prices remained almost stationary up to the end of August. The scattered nature of the showers in the month of September gave rise to apprehensions regarding the *kharif* harvest and the prices of all food-grains jumped upwards. They showed a downward tendency again in the months of January and February owing to the impending advent of new

grain into the market, but the strong westerly hot winds in March again turned the scale. In June, 1920, wheat stood at 6·25 seers to the rupee ; by June, 1921, it had risen to 5·50 seers. Barley began at 9·50 seers and ended at 8·25 seers. The corresponding figures for gram were 8 and 6·75 seers. There was a rise in price in the case of *juar* from 10·50 seers in June, 1920 to 7·75 seers in March, 1921. On the other hand, there was a fall in the price of maize. In the month of October, 1920 the price of maize was 8·50 seers to the rupee, but it fell to 10 seers in the following February. The price of rice at the beginning of the year was 4 seers and at the end of the year 5 seers to a rupee. The prices of fodder continued to range high. The grass that came up with the rain in July was in most places quickly consumed and pastures became bare by the ensuing dry weather. *Juar* stalks fetched fancy prices. Some relief was felt at the *rabi* harvest though the price of *bhusa* continued to be high.

29.—Horticulture.

(*For details see the annual reports on the Horticulture Garden at Lucknow and the Botanical Gardens at Saharanpur, for the year ending* 31*st March,* 1921.)

Horticulture gardens.

164. The season was disappointing. Rainfall was in excess in July and in defect in all other months. Such concentrated rainfall is not helpful to gardening. There was no great demand for plants and seeds from the Lucknow gardens and only 8,711 packets of flower seeds were distributed. Of these, 4,375 were distributed free to schools and colleges. The total value of the plants, seeds, and other garden produce supplied free amounted to Rs. 2,595. Total receipts amounted to Rs. 11,562, which was less by Rs. 2,438 than the estimate. The pumping installation, which was put in under the supervision of the Agricultural department during the year 1918-19, was found extremely useful and did much to keep the gardens in a flourishing condition. There were again only eight students in the Choudhry class, of whom three were given certificates on the completion of their course.

Botanical gardens.

165. The character of the season at Saharanpur was the same as at Lucknow. The ill-effects of the concentrated rainfall in July were felt during the latter part of the year, when a large number of shrubs and young plants died. Total sales of the year amounted to Rs. 21,511, an increase of some Rs. 1,500 on last year's figure. Expenditure rose from Rs. 36,918 to Rs. 53,142. An additional grant was made during the year to cover the cost of increased wages. Of the sanctioned number of 18 stipendiary posts in the Choudhry class only five were filled. The gardens are at present suffering from shortage of water. One of the tube-wells in the main garden continues to give satisfaction, but the supply is not sufficient. The Superintendent is of opinion that the gardens cannot be improved until the water-supply is increased, and this can only be done either by using canal-water again or by the sinking of a second tube-well alongside the existing one. This matter is under consideration, together with other matters relating to the general administration of the public gardens of this province.

30.—Forests.

[*For details see the annual progress report on Forest administration for the year ending* 31*st March,* 1921, *and the tables under the head "Forests," IV* (*b*)*—Statistics of British India.*]

Area and demarcation.

166. Out of 492 square miles of demarcated forest in the Kumaun circle shown as under reservation last year, 35 square miles were restored to the original owners, the remainder being reserved. There was an increase in the Working Plans circle of six square miles, due to the extension of afforestation operations to the Agra district. The total area of State forests under the control of the Forest department thus fell by 29 square miles from 7,471 to 7,442 squares miles. The settlement of the Jaunsar-Bawar

Forest has received the final sanction of Government. The current settlement work in Garhwal is now complete, and the only settlement work remaining in the Kumaun circle is that of an area of 70 acres known as the Simtola estate in Almora. The settlement of zamindari ravine tracts in the Afforestation division still remains incomplete. Postponed in 1918-19 on account of famine, it had to be commenced *de novo* owing to the transfer of the Settlement officer and subsequent progress has been delayed by pressure of other work. The total length of all boundaries at the close of the year was 14,783 miles, of which 2,696 miles are natural and do not require special demarcation. All arrears of demarcation in the East Almora division were completed; elsewhere new work was confined mainly to improving existing boundary marks and to rectification of minor discrepancies.

Revenue.

167. It has been decided that the report on Forest administration shall in future coincide with the financial year and allowance therefore must be made for this alteration when comparing the figures of the year under review with those of previous years. The financial results of the nine months ending on the 31st March, 1921 show an increase of Rs. 4⅓ lakhs in gross receipts, a decrease of Rs. 6⅔ lakhs in expenditure, and an increase of Rs. 10¾ lakhs in the net surplus as compared with the 12 months, from July, 1919 to June, 1920. The net revenue, Rs. 20,26,220 for nine months only, exceeded the average revenue for the last five years by over a lakh. The increase is due to good prices realized for timber, rosin, and turpentine.

Expenditure.

168. The total expenditure fell from Rs. 64 lakhs to Rs. 57·63 lakhs. The decrease is to be found chiefly under the head "Conservancy and Works." Expenditure on establishments remained much the same.

Outturn.

169. The outturn of timber decreased slightly from 8·7 to 8·1 million cubic feet, but its value increased by nearly Rs. 7 lakhs. Under all other receipt heads there was some decrease as compared with the previous year. In the Kumaun circle a general decrease in outturn is ascribed to labour difficulties. The yield of rosin per maund of resin was more than in the preceding year and the quality of the rosin was also better. The season was on the whole favourable and the average outturn per 100 channels increased from 3·58 to 4·31 maunds.

Breaches of forest rules.

170. Breaches of forest rules fell from 4,483 to 3,173, unauthorized fellings or removals fell from 2,476 to 1,654, and cases of unauthorized grazing from 1,607 to 1,143. These figures cannot however be construed as indicating any tendency for cases to decline, for this year's report excludes the major portion of the fire and the cattle trespass seasons. In the Kumaun circle there was a general epidemic of petty forest offences fostered by the anti-forest agitation and only a tithe of the offences committed were dealt with. Cases taken into court, including those pending from last year, numbered 186, of which 138 were disposed of during the year and 48 remained undecided. Convictions were obtained in 105 cases or 76 per cent. of the whole. Cases compounded were 2,956 and involved 15,031 persons. The average compensation taken was Rs. 5·9 per case and Rs. 1·16 per person.

Protection from fire.

171. The total area in which protective measures were undertaken was approximately 50 per cent. of the whole against 47 per cent. in the previous year. The increase is mainly due to extension of protection in the outer hills of the Ramnagar and Lansdowne divisions. There were 106 fires which covered an area of 13 square miles, of which 13 covering an area of 3·9 square miles were attributed to incendiarism. No comparison can be made with the results of previous years for the reasons already stated. Even the nine comparatively safe months dealt with in the report were not favourable from a fire protection point of view owing to the early cessation of the 1920 monsoon and the comparative failure of the winter rains. The season proved eventually the most disastrous ever known owing to extreme dryness and deliberate incendiarism.

Grazing.

172. The income from grazing fell from Rs. 1·24 lakhs to 1·12 lakhs, due to the shortness of the period under report. The percentage of open and closed forest remained the same as in the previous year. There was a slight decrease in the number of cattle grazed.

Communications and buildings.

173. The total expenditure incurred on new works and repairs was Rs. 1·69 as compared with Rs. 1·70 lakhs in the preceding year. This included the construction of 314 miles of roads and pathways and the repair of 6,372 miles. Important improvements were effected on the Sarda Valley road and progress was made on an important road in the Kota Dun. The importance of roads and bridle-paths has this year been further accentuated by the abolition of *utar* in Kumaun and the great rise in the cost of coolie labour. The necessity of generous budget provision for road and bridle-paths will have to be recognised for some years to come. The difficulty of carrying camp equipage will also necessitate a more extensive programme of forest rest-houses for touring officials, both in the hills and the plains.

The expenditure on buildings in all circles was Rs. 7,19,043 on new works and Rs. 65,583 on repairs, as compared with Rs. 8,88,794 and Rs. 56,578 respectively in the previous year. The greater part of this was incurred in the Utilization circle on the construction of sawmill and buildings pertaining to it, additions to the Wood-Working Institute, and houses for the staff. Excluding the buildings connected with the Utilization circle Rs. 1,05,737 was spent on new works, of which 63 per cent. was on account of houses for subordinates, and 18 per cent. on account of rest-houses.

General.

174. As was the case in the previous year, the Utilization circle shows a heavy loss of 14 lakhs, but this is mainly due to the fact that capital expenditure has hitherto been met from current revenue. If the capital expenditure had been debited to a separate account and only annual instalments of the principal and interest been charged against the revenue account the two and a half lakhs revenue earned in nine months by the circle would have shown that this venture holds out promise of a better future. The expert staff for the sawmill and turnery arrived from England at the close of the year. The shortage of officers in the Imperial Forest Service cadre, due to the difficulty of recruiting during the War, interfered seriously with the proper conduct of the administration and still more with the programme of development. Out of a sanctioned cadre of 35 directly recruited Imperial Forest Service officers, little more than half that number was available for duty. Experimental work was continued during the year, but owing to the early cessation of the monsoon and the ensuing period of severe drought most of the seedlings perished. In the Afforestation division, however, sowings were generally successful and the area under plantation was extended considerably. Afforestation operations were extended for the first time to the ravine land in the Bah tahsil of Agra district.

The extraction of 200,000 broad guage sleepers from the Nepal forests in the Sarda valley, which have been presented free of royalty by the Nepal Darbar to the State railways, was completed shortly after the close of the year.

31.—Mines and Quarries.

(For details see the tables under "Mineral production" in Part 1—Statistics of British India.)

Mines.

175. There are practically no mines in these provinces. The total output of gold dust for the year in the Bijnor and Garhwal districts was only valued at Rs. 191. The copper mine in the Jhansi district has been closed and so have the iron mines in the Garhwal district.

Quarries.

176. In the Almora district 24,555 tons of stone slates were quarried valued at Rs. 5,448. Roofing slates valued at Rs. 500 were also extracted. The Mirzapur stone quarries produced 149,609 tons, principally building stone and ballast. The value of the outturn remained the same; namely Rs. 2·8 lakhs. The Banda quarries produced 11,992 tons worth Rs. 56,720 as compared with 9,693 tons worth Rs. 35,015 last year.

32.—Manufactures.

(*For details see the tables in Parts* I *and* II.—*Statistics of British India.*)

Cotton.

177. The number of ginning and pressing factories worked during the year was 90, employing 11,654 operatives as against 118, employing 11,000 last year. The number of cotton mills fell from 17 to 13. The number of looms and spindles worked was 4,561 and 455,345 respectively as against 4,455 looms and 455,277 spindles in the previous year.

Sugar factories.

178. Twelve sugar factories driven by mechanical power were working as against 11 in the previous year. The number of persons employed rose from 2,706 to 2,956.

Indigo.

179. Seventy-three indigo factories were working, the same number as last year. The number of workmen employed rose from 7,238 to 7,833. Of the total number, 12 were driven by mechanical power and the rest by hand.

Lac.

180. The number of lac factories, all of which are in Mirzapur, fell from 24 to 22 and the number of operatives employed from 2,260 to 1,980.

Tanneries.

181. The number of tanneries remained the same, namely 7, while the number of workmen fell from 6,674 to 5,507. One is situated at Allahabad and the rest at Cawnpore.

Miscellaneous.

182. The number of glass-works fell from 5 to 3. The number of operatives employed by the one power-driven woollen mill has fallen from 4,309 to 3,181. The one jute mill in the province has now been closed. The number of power-driven oil mills has fallen from 8 to 7 and the number of operatives employed from 619 to 594. The number of flour mills fell from 5 to 4 and the number of workmen from 740 to 453.

Weaving schools.

183. The number of students attending the Central Weaving Institute, Benares, was 112, as compared with 121 in the previous year. There is said to be such a great demand for artisans that they leave the school before their period of training is finished. A new hostel was opened in July, 1920. Most of the district weaving schools and the peripatetic weaving schools continue to do good work. The Government appointed a committee under the Registrar of Co-operative Credit Societies to advise as to the future management of these weaving schools. Their report is at present under consideration.

Joint stock companies.

184. The number of new joint stock companies registered during the year was 54 as against 29 of the previous year, the authorised capital being Rs. 826·10 lakhs. Twenty-eight companies increased their capital and only two slightly decreased it. Nearly 40 per cent. of the new floatations come under the head of miscellaneous trading and manufacturing. There were three banks with an authorised capital of 31 lakhs. There is usually a wide divergence between the subscribed and the authorized capital.

33.—Trade.

(*For details see the annual reports on inland and foreign trade for the year ending* 31*st March,* 1921, *and the accounts of trade carried by rail and river in India.*)

Additions to the Railway system.

185. No additions were made to the railway systems.

Total rail-borne traffic.

186. The volume of rail-borne traffic increased by nearly 116 lakhs of maunds in weight, and by over Rs. 87 lakhs in value. Increases occurred both in imports and exports: in the former the increase was due to larger receipts of grains, and in the latter to the despatch of grains and oilseeds in larger quantities.

Imports.

187. The import trade rose by over 20 lakhs of maunds in weight and by over Rs. 546 lakhs in value. From the Punjab there was an increase in the imports of grains of over 28 lakhs of maunds, but a decrease in the imports of mineral substances, oilseeds, and salt. The import trade with Bombay showed little variation. Trade with Bengal rose by nearly 15 lakhs

of maunds in consequence of larger receipts of coal and coke and grains. Trade with Central India fell by nearly 9 lakhs of maunds owing to smaller receipts of coal and coke. Imports of coal and coke from Bihar and Orissa also fell, while those of grains rose, though not to the same extent. Altogether there was a decrease of over 4½ lakhs of maunds from this province. Rajputana also shows a decrease of over 4 lakhs of maunds mainly in consequence of smaller supplies of salt.

Exports.

188. In 1919-20 exports fell in weight but rose in value; in the year under report the reverse was the case. They rose in weight by 95 lakhs of maunds, whilst their value declined by about Rs. 46 lakhs. Trade with Bombay and Bihar and Orissa increased by over 8 lakhs of maunds each, due chiefly to larger export of grains. Exports to Bengal rose by nearly 7 lakhs of maunds, to the Punjab and Sind by over 4 lakhs of maunds, and to the Central Provinces and Berar by nearly 13 lakhs of maunds, chiefly owing to larger exports of grains. Increases also occurred for the same reason in the trade with the Bombay and Karachi ports. Exports to Calcutta rose by about 9½ lakhs of maunds. Trade with Rajputana and Central India declined on the other hand by 2 lakhs of maunds in each case.

Trade with Cawnpore.

189. Imports into Cawnpore rose by over 7 lakhs of maunds, owing to larger receipts of coal and coke, grains, and metals, while exports declined by nearly 3 lakhs of maunds, owing to diminished exports under hides and skins and railway plant. Oilseeds, however, were exported in larger quantities than in the previous year.

Internal rail-borne traffic.

190. The volume of the internal rail-borne traffic fell by 40½ lakhs of maunds. The only large increase was under the head of oilseeds. Fodder, gram, pulse, mineral substances, railway plant and sugar all showed substantial decreases, especially gram and pulse.

River borne traffic.

191. The total river-borne imports from Calcutta amounted to 51,442 maunds in weight and to Rs. 12,89,733 in value, showing an increase of 4,243 maunds in weight and Rs. 2,11,536 in value over the figures of the previous year. Exports showed an increase of 353 maunds in weight and Rs. 66,191 in value.

FOREIGN TRADE.

Tibet.

192. Imports from Tibet showed an increase of 879 maunds in weight and of Rs. 2,19,089 in value, while exports rose by 5,900 maunds in weight and by Rs. 1,02,057 in value. The chief articles which figure in the import trade with Tibet are borax, salt, and wool. There was a slight decrease in the imports of borax, a smaller increase in the imports of salt, and a comparatively large increase in imports of wool. There appears to be a good demand for Tibetan wool at Cawnpore, and also locally in the Almora district owing to the high prices of wool prevailing in the world's markets. It is also reported that the Tibetan authorities offered greater facilities and concessions to traders. There was a considerable increase also in imports of silver and animals. The chief export trade to Tibet consists of cotton goods, grains, metals, sugar, and coral. An increase occurred in the export of all these commodities except cotton goods which dropped by 324 maunds in weight and by Rs. 20,140 in value. Exports of grains increased from 39,148 to 43,945 maunds.

Nepal.

193. Imports from Nepal, which had been going down for the last two years, rose by 621,008 maunds and their value by Rs. 19,34,667. Exports also rose by 32,320 maunds in weight and by Rs. 5,60,029 in value. The chief increase was in respect of grain imports, which rose from 10,03,307 maunds to 16,74,509 maunds in weight and from Rs. 57,68,395 to Rs. 88,59,491 in value. Imports of dyeing materials, of silver, and of animals also increased, while there was a decline in respect of raw fibrous products, ghee, oilseeds, and spices. Pilibhit, Kheri, Bahraich, Gonda, and Basti considerably increased their imports while Gorakhpur, Naini Tal, and Almora showed decreases. As regards exports there was an increase in the exports of metals, spices, cotton goods, mahua, salt, merchandise, and animals, while the exports of sugar and oils decreased. The increase in the export trade is shared by all the districts except Gorakhpur.

34.—Buildings and Roads.

(*For details see the annual administration report of the Public Works department, Buildings and Roads branch, for the year ending the 31st March,* 1921.)

Revenue and expenditure.

194. The revenue realized during the year by the Buildings and Roads branch of the Public Works department amounted to Rs. 4·87 lakhs, of which Rs. 4·24 were provincial. The expenditure totalled over Rs. 140 lakhs or Rs. 24 lakhs more than the previous year. Of this total rather more than Rs. 5 lakhs were for imperial works, Rs. 95·42 lakhs for provincial works, Rs. 28·30 lakhs for excluded local works, and Rs. 11·06 lakhs for contribution works.

Imperial buildings.

195. The larger portion of the expenditure under the head of imperial buildings was devoted to meeting the requirements of the laboratories at Mukhtesar in the Naini Tal district. Other works which may be mentioned were telegraph office buildings at Agra and Cawnpore and opium buildings in the Fyzabad district.

Provincial buildings.

196. The total expenditure under the head of provincial buildings amounted to Rs. 30·5 lakhs or an increase of about 5 lakhs over the figures of the previous year. The amount devoted to educational needs—over 9 lakhs—was practically the same as in the previous year. Rupees 12·29 lakhs was spent on the construction of buildings required for the Provincial administration. The construction of residences for the Executive Councillors was started and satisfactory progress made. All the works connected with the transformation of the Government House at Lucknow, which were referred to last year, were brought to completion. Over Rs. 2 lakhs was spent on police buildings, four police stations being under construction. The sum of Rs. 9 lakhs devoted to education included expenditure on Intermediate Colleges at Jhansi and Fyzabad, on a Training College at Agra, a Normal school at Muzaffarnagar, High schools at Gonda and Banda, Technical Normal and Model schools at Jhansi, a Normal school at Bareilly, a new Model school at Mainpuri, a new girls' school at Lucknow, and various hostels and staff quarters. Very few of these buildings, however, were completed during the year.

Communications.

197. The total expenditure on communications rose from Rs. 28·76 to Rs. 32·55 lakhs. The total length of metalled roads in the province rose from 7,395 to 7,426 miles, exclusive of 28 miles maintained by local agency. Fair progress was made in spite of a shortage of railway wagons. Dearth of labour hampered progress on the construction of the cart road from Bhatronjkhan on the Ranikhet-Ramnagar road and Ganai in the Almora district. It is, however, expected that the first section of 16 miles will be completed during the year 1921-22. An important project was drawn up for the continuation of the Rajpur-Mussoorie cart road from Kolukhet to Bhatta near Mussoorie.

Navigation.

198. The total lengths of the river Ganges kept open for navigation in the Allahabad and Mirzapur districts, and also in the Benares, Ghazipur, and Ballia districts, were 127 miles and 216 miles respectively. Ninety-seven miles of the Gogra river running through the Ballia and Azamgarh districts were also maintained in navigable condition.

Electric light and power.

199. During the year some 152 projects were undertaken, 82 of which were completed. No schemes of magnitude were, however, carried out, but 40 Government buildings were connected with the supply-mains. Good progress was made with the hydro-electric scheme for Naini Tal.

Sanitary works.

200. Labour troubles and the wagon difficulty on railways again caused serious delay. The sum of Rs. 9·40 lakhs was spent on original sanitary contribution works and Rs. 10·42 lakhs on maintenance and repairs of open water-works. The Allahabad drainage work at Kydganj and the Permitghat sewage pumping station in Cawnpore were completed. The water-supplies of the large municipalities were maintained without any break down during the year though some difficulty was experienced at Allahabad on account of the abnormal flow of the Jumna river and the exhaustion of the stock of coal.

Arboriculture.

201. Arboriculture included 42 miles planted and 1621 miles maintained at a cost of Rs. 86,081. Revenue from sale of produce amounted to Rs. 54,899.

Private works.

202. Private individuals contributed the sum of Rs. 5·39 lakhs on works of public utility such as *dharamshalas*, wells and schools.

General.

203. A considerable amount of architectural work was done during the year. Designs and estimates were prepared for a number of buildings, chief among which were the additions and alterations to the Government House at Lucknow, the Circuit Houses at Fyzabad and Gorakhpur, the Industrial and Technological Institutes at Cawnpore and the Intermediate Colleges at Almora and Jhansi. Throughout the year work generally was again carried on under circumstances of considerable difficulty. There was still a shortage of transport, and staff and rates far from being stable, advanced still further. The scarcity of labour and carts coupled with enhanced prices of all kinds of materials were reflected in the great difficulties experienced in executiug both works and repairs.

35.—Canals.

(For details see the annual administration report of the Public Works department, Irrigation branch, for the year ending the 31st March, 1921.)

Outlay and construction.

204. The direct and indirect capital outlay on all classes of works during the year amounted to Rs. 23,41,846. Of this, a sum of Rs. 3,13,484 was spent on protective works, Rs. 19,03,643 on productive works and the balance on minor works.

The expenditure on protective works was mainly incurred on the Barwar lake and canal in the Jhansi district and the Batkhara and Jaiwanti tanks in Banda, while the greater part of the outlay on works of a productive nature was expended on the Sarda-Kichha feeder, the Kho weir, Bijnor canals, the Rajpur feeder, Dun canals, and the permanent headworks of the Ganges canal at Hardwar.

Works proposed.

205. The estimate for the Sarda (Oudh) canal was sanctioned by the Secretary of State during the year at a total cost of Rs. 750·30 lakhs inclusive of all indirect charges. The project consists of 17½ miles of main canal, breaking up into three main branches, (the Hardoi, the Kheri and the Pilibhit) and commands an area of 6,400,000 acres in the districts of Pilibhit, Shahjahanpur, Kheri, Sultanpur, Hardoi, Lucknow, Unao, Rae Bareli, and Bara Banki. The area of irrigation anticipated is 1,368,000 acres annually of which 600,000 will be in *kharif* and the remainder in *rabi*.

As regards protective works negotiations with the Rewah Darbar in connection with the land to be taken up in that State for the Belan canal scheme are still in progress. The revised project for the third reservoir at Kaprar to supplement the *kharif* supplies in the Betwa canal was prepared and negotiations are in progress in connection with the land required for the dam in the Gwalior State.

In connection with the general policy adopted last year for irrigation works in Bundelkhand, four schemes for re-distribution of outlets on distributary systems and 20 on minor channels of the Betwa canal were prepared. Over 100 miles of level surveys were done along the beds of the Non and Malanga *nadis* in connection with the checking of erosion of their banks. Also a small but useful scheme was prepared for the extension of the Moth minor and proposals have also been got out for remodelling the existing Pachwara canals.

Surveys.

206. The Hydro-electric survey has shown that the whole of the Ganges valley in Garhwal is disappointing in respect of power possibilities. The volume of water is large, but the formation of the valley is on the whole unsuitable and the question of impounding water seems impracticable. There are, however, three points on the river where the development of power may be possible.

Surveys on the rivers in the Rewah, Panna and other Bundelkhand states with the object of prospecting for power on the Ken and Paisuni rivers are in progress.

Four survey parties were employed during the year to survey *bandhi* schemes in the Jhansi, Banda, Allahabad and Hamirpur districts and projects estimated to cost Rs. 3·23 lakhs were prepared. These can at any time be taken up as famine relief works.

Financial results.

207. The gross revenue from open canals amounted to Rs. 153·30 lakhs and the net revenue to Rs. 99·09 lakhs as compared with Rs. 148·09 and Rs. 106·52 lakhs respectively in the previous year. The falling off in net revenue is due to an increase under "Working expenses" which totalled Rs. 54·20 lakhs or some 12 lakhs more than in the year 1919-20, this being due to the revision of pay of all classes of establishment and to the high level of prices. The profit realized from the working of the canals after deduction of interest charges amounted to Rs. 58·76 against Rs. 65·22 lakhs in the preceding year, equal to 4·36 per cent. on the total capital outlay of Rs. 1,348·51 lakhs. On protective works there was a net loss after taking the interest charges into consideration of Rs. 5·84 lakhs as compared Rs. 9·02 lakhs in the previous year. On productive works the profits after deducting interest charges amounted to Rs. 62·93 lakhs as compared with Rs. 71·80 lakhs in the previous year, representing a return of 6·17 per cent. as against 7·03 per cent. in 1919-20. The net revenue from minor works was Rs. 1·67 lakhs, or Rs. 77,705 less than in the previous year, giving a return of 4·05 per cent. The terms of the provincial contract which was introduced with effect from the 1st April, 1909, continued unaltered. The net revenue under major productive works was Rs. 21¾ lakhs in excess of the Rs. 55·5 lakhs guaranteed under these terms, this constituting the eighth consecutive year in which this limit has been passed. The net credit to the revenues of the province of the canals under this contract after deducting interest charges was Rs. 37·23 lakhs or about 11 lakhs less than in 1919-20 and 1½ lakhs less than in 1918-19.

Assessments.

208. The total assessed revenue, direct and indirect amounted to Rs. 1,58,82,212 as compared with Rs. 1,48,23,684 in 1919-20 and Rs. 1,44,36,777 in 1918-19. Although there was a decrease of 77,322 acres in the area irrigated this year as compared with that in the year previous, the total occupiers' rate assessed was about 6¾ lakhs of rupees in excess of the preceding year's figures. The increase is due to the re-introduction of the *bila kiari* rules as well as to the levy of uniform water rates on the four major canals, the Upper Ganges, Lower Ganges, Agra and Eastern Jumna with effect from the 1st April, 1920.

Mileage of canals.

209. The total length of channels in operation at the close of the year was 16,136 miles as compared with 16,133 miles at the end of the year 1919-20.

36.—Irrigation.

Irrigated area.

210. The *kharif* season was an abnormal one. The monsoon did not arrive until the end of June, and ceased abruptly almost everywhere after the first week of August. With the exception of timely and beneficial rainfall during the third week of January the *rabi* season was practically rainless. Demand for canal water was consequently strong throughout the year, except for a short period after the monsoon closed. The supplies were more or less adequate during the early *kharif* but, with the exception of the Lower Ganges and Ken canals, broke down towards the end of the fasl, particularly on the Ganges canal, owing to shoaling troubles at Bhimgoda, and in the Rohilkhand and Bijnor canals where it was inadequate to meet the demand for sugar, and late crops suffered from the early cessation of rains. Supplies in rivers during the *rabi* were the lowest on record. The early withdrawal of the monsoon combined with the shoaling difficulties at Bhimgoda retarded supplies urgently needed for wheat sowings on the Upper Ganges canal, while the growth of the *sirwal* weed in the Hindan cut prevented the Agra canal from taking its proper supply during the months of February and March. The total area not matured during the year was 29,086 acres as compared with 21,019 acres in 1919-20. In

view of the fact that supplies were the lowest on record, the area which failed to mature is not unsatisfactory.

211. The estimated value of crops raised on lands receiving State irrigation was Rs. 27·75 against Rs. 28·66 crores in the preceding year. The percentages of *kharif* and *rabi* areas irrigated remained practically the same as in the year before, namely 42·23 and 57·77 against 43·86 and 56·14. The areas under sugarcane, millet, wheat, barley and other *rabi* food grains showed an improvement on the previous year's figures, while there was a falling off under maize, cotton and other *kharif* and *rabi* crops. The area under rice was the largest ever irrigated.

CHAPTER V.—REVENUE AND FINANCE.

(*a*).—Imperial Revenue and Finance.

[*For details see the accounts for the year* 1920-21 *and the tables in Part IV*(*a*) *and* (*b*)—*Statistics of British India.*]

37.—Gross revenue.

212. The imperial share of the gross revenue realized amounted to Rs. 5,81,40,370 as compared with Rs. 5,60,09,601 in the year 1919-20.

38.—Land revenue.

213. The gross land revenue realized was Rs. 6,80,47,676, of which the imperial share was Rs. 4,09,71,426. The corresponding figures for the previous year were Rs. 6,63,39,689 and Rs. 3,99,38,421.

39.—Canal revenue.

214. The gross direct revenue accruing from canals rose from Rs. 1,26,80,966 to Rs. 1,31,23,751.

40.—Excise.

[*For details see the annual report on the administration of excise for the year ending* 31*st March*, 1921, *and the tables under the head "Excise," Part IV*(*b*) *Statistics of British India.*]

Receipt.

215. The *rabi* harvest of 1920 was a good one and the marriage season was unusually brisk; but the rains, which began well, practically ceased in August and the *kharif* crop was poor. During the months of February and March, 1921, the economic causes tending to reduction of consumption were accentuated by the outbreak of an agitation, which was partly a temperance, but very largely a political agitation. The result was seen in a considerable rise in consumption in the first quarter of the year; in the second and third quarters the variation was small, while in the last quarter there was an appreciable drop. On the whole, although the process of reducing the number of retail shops was steadily carried out and there were considerable increases in the rates of duty on drugs and in the price of opium, there was a rise in the consumption of all excisable commodities except *ganja* and opium. Receipts in consequence rose by Rs. 8·68 lakhs to Rs. 181·15 lakhs.

Collections.

216. Of the total demand of Rs. 182·69 lakhs, Rs. 181·90 lakhs or 99·6 per cent. were collected. Of the balance of Rs. 79,173, Rs. 1,093 has been remitted as irrecoverable and Rs. 12,732 realized, leaving Rs. 65,348 still due. A large balance under the head of licence fees is attributed to the non-co-operation movement at the end of the year.

Country spirit.

217. The total receipts from country spirit rose from Rs. 107·66 to Rs. 112·04. There was a further rise in the incidence of total revenue per proof gallon from Rs. 9-8-5 to Rs. 9-10-7, of which Rs. 6-0-2 are duty and

Rs. 3-10-5 are licence fees. Consumption rose slightly from 1,115,934 gallons to 1,138,030 gallons. In the first quarter there was an increase of 46 per cent., in the second and third quarters the increase was slight; and in the last quarter there was a decrease of 29·9 per cent. There were remarkable increases in three districts: Muttra, where the increase was 77·5 per cent.; Moradabad, where it was 73 per cent.; and Shahjahanpur, where it was 40·3 per cent. Generally the abnormal rise is attributed to keen competition among vendors, resulting in a reduction of price which attracted customers from adjoining districts. The surcharge fixed fee system continued in force in the Muzaffarnagar district. It is now believed that the system saves the vendors from the rash speculation of auctions and tends to encourage temperance.

Contract supply system.

218. A small area in the Bahraich district containing one shop was converted from the outstill to the contract distillery system. From the 1st April, 1921, the nine districts of Dehra Dun, Fyzabad, Sultanpur, Partabgarh, Allahabad, Rae Bareli, Benares, Jaunpur, and Mirzapur have been brought under the contract system.

Outstill areas.

219. The whole of the province has now been brought under the contract system, except inaccessible parts of eight districts, which still depend for their supply on outstills. From 1st April, 1921, part of the Robertsganj tahsil in the Mirzapur district has been converted from the outstill to the contract distillery system.

Hemp drugs.

220. Licence fees on hemp drugs rose from Rs. 18·51 to Rs. 20·07, and duty from Rs. 15·29 to Rs. 16·16 lakhs. The total revenue thus rose from Rs. 33·80 to Rs. 36·23 lakhs. The consumption of all kinds of hemp drugs increased, but in all cases, and especially in the case of *bhang*, the increase was probably due to laying in of stocks in anticipation of the rise in duty. Contracts of 15 districts expired at the close of the year, and in spite of unfavourable conditions they were settled for Rs. 7·2 lakhs, as compared with Rs. 5 lakhs, the fees of the expiring contracts.

Opium.

221. Duty from opium increased from Rs. 11·42 to Rs. 12·82 lakhs and total receipts from Rs. 17·87 lakhs to Rs. 19·15 lakhs. Consumption fell from 40,843 to 39,264 seers, and the number of shops was reduced from 1,024 to 1,011. From 1st April, 1920, the issue price of opium was raised from Rs. 40 to Rs. 45 per seer and from the commencement of the present year it has been further raised to Rs. 55. Issues continued to be restricted to the estimated requirements in the same districts as last year, and restrictions were extended to three other districts as well. The surcharge licence fee system with fixed maximum and minimum retail prices continued in certain cities and districts. The financial results would appear to show that the special system, as worked hitherto, does not give such good results as the ordinary system, and there can be little doubt that both surcharges and maximum prices have been fixed too leniently.

Tari and sendhi.

222. Licence fees of *tari* rose from Rs. 4·35 to Rs. 4·69 lakhs. Gorakhpur with Rs. 1·51 lakhs continues to contribute nearly one-third of the revenue under this head. The replacing of the farming system by shop settlements has proved a success in several districts. With effect from 1st October, 1920, the tree-tax system was introduced into two tahsils of the Gorakhpur district. Tapping operations were, however, adversely affected by the non-co-operation movement and the introduction of the system has been accompanied by a fall in licence fees in these two tahsils. It is unfortunate that the inauguration of this experiment was coincident with such an unpropitious year.

Foreign liquor.

223. The total number of licences for the sale of foreign liquor was 972 as compared with 1,005 in the previous year, the chief decrease occurring under the head of temporary licences, which fell from 302 to 249. Licence fees, however, increased from Rs. 59,762 to Rs. 74,658. There appears to be a tendency towards increased consumption of foreign wines and spirits, but no definite conclusion can be drawn from the increase. The trade is intermittent and has ramifications in other provinces. It is reported from some districts that middle class consumers of country spirit are inclined to change over to foreign spirit owing to the enhanced price of the former, the effect of increased taxation. This tendency will be neutralised to a great extent

by the higher scale of duties imposed on foreign liquor from 1st March, 1921. The breweries at Chakrata and Ranikhet worked throughout the year. No brewing was done at the Naini Tal brewery, which is to be closed as soon as the present stock of beer is exhausted. The beer issued from the three places amounted to 76,140 as against 80,692 gallons in the previous year, the decrease being probably due to the re-opening of imports after the war.

Prosecutions.

224. The total number of prosecutions under the Excise Act rose from 1,114 to 1,178. Illicit distillation cases rose from 338 to 453, the *mahua* crop of 1920 being a good one. The cocaine traffic has revived since the termination of the War and the number of prosecutions rose from 45 to 70. In 1918-19 there were only 11. The districts showing the highest number of convictions were Saharanpur, Cawnpore, Benares, Allahabad, and Moradabad. Convictions for drunkenness fell from 1,714 to 1,317. There was a marked decline in Allahabad and a considerable increase in Bareilly. Opium cases decreased from 381 to 356; 246 of these being smuggling cases, a smaller number than in any of the preceding five years.

General.

225. The chief features of the year have already been noted. The policy of the maximum of revenue with the minimum of consumption is being steadily pursued, and with apparent success. For the movement which spread throughout the province towards the close of the year, various causes appear to be responsible. The movement was to some extent a strike against the high price of excisable articles, due to increased taxation. In eight eastern districts the combined introduction of the contract system, with prohibition of the watering of spirit in shops and the raising of duty from Rs. 6-4 to Rs. 9 per proof gallon caused vendors to apprehend that the profits of the trade would vanish, and in several districts they refused to bid for shops. It is also said that the consumers were told by agitators that if they boycotted spirit for a time Government would be obliged to reduce the price. Secondly, there can be little doubt that the revolt against the use of intoxicants is one phase of a movement for a return to a more simple and less luxurious mode of life. Lastly, some of the so-called temperance agitators seem to have been influenced largely by the motive of embarrassing Government by reducing the excise revenue. It may be noted here that since the close of the year a committee has been constituted to advise Government on the excise policy to be pursued in the future.

41.—Stamps.

[*For details see the annual reports on the stamp returns for the year ending 31st March, 1921, and the tables under the head "Stamps," Part IV (b)—Statistics of British India.*]

Receipts and charges.

226. Gross receipts under the Stamp and Court Fees Acts increased from Rs. 146·14 to Rs. 149·01 lakhs. Charges increased from Rs. 3·75 to Rs. 3·86 lakhs.

Judicial stamps.

227. The gross income from judicial stamps increased from Rs. 110·67 to Rs. 113·29 lakhs. Increases occurred under all heads, namely sale of court-fee stamps and sale of stamps for copies.

Non-judicial stamps.

228. There was again a rise in the value of non-judicial stamps sold from Rs. 35·46 to 35·71 lakhs. The rise was chiefly under the head of "Miscellaneous receipts." There was a considerable fall under the head of "Impressed stamps."

Prosecutions.

229. Prosecutions increased from 1,034 to 1,121. Cases of insufficiently stamped or unstamped documents rose from 3,101 to 3,421 and the sum realized in duty or penalty from Rs. 49,502 to Rs. 1,69,214.

42—Assessed taxes.

[*For details see the annual income-tax returns of the province for the year ending 31st March, 1921, and the tables under the head "Income-tax," (b)—Statistics of British India.*]

Income-tax.

230. Income-tax is the only directly assessed tax in the province. The total demand for the past year including arrears was Rs. 64·63 lakhs, and

total collections, including excess and advance collections, amounted to Rs. 62·60 lakhs. Expenditure increased with the expansion of staff from Rs. 2,49,804 to Rs. 3,76,082.

43.—Any other taxes levied for imperial purposes.

231. The yield from customs, the whole of which is credited to the Imperial Exchequer, was Rs. 6,03,772 as compared with Rs. 5,33,880 in the previous year. Excise duty on cotton manufactures is the only customs levied in these provinces.

44.—Forests.

232. The receipts from forests are no longer shared between the Imperial and Provincial revenues, but credited entirely to the latter.

45.—Provincial revenues.

(*For details see the Government resolution on the provincial revenues of* 1920-21.)

Financial position.

233. The budget was framed on the assumption that there would be no set-back in general prosperity; and with the complete relaxation of restrictions against using balances a full expenditure was estimated, which included Rs. 50 lakhs for revised pay, Rs. 48 lakhs under education for expansion of both primary and secondary vernacular education, and Rs. 30 lakhs as an instalment of the large building programme due to the accumulation of war arrears. The budget accordingly provided for an opening balance of Rs. 211·89 lakhs, an income of Rs. 848·86 lakhs, an expenditure of Rs. 984·41 lakhs, and a closing balance of Rs. 76·34 lakhs. The actual net results were not far different from anticipations. The actual opening balance was Rs. 220·87 lakhs; income rose by Rs. 13·86 lakhs, while expenditure rose to Rs. 993·21 lakhs, or by Rs. 8·80 lakhs. Against an anticipated deficit of Rs. 135·55 lakhs on the year's working, the actual figure was Rs. 130·49 lakhs. The general results are compared with those of the previous year in the table below :—

	1919-20. Lakhs.	1920-21. Lakhs.	Difference. Lakhs.
Opening balances ...	252·50	220·87	—31·69
Receipts ...	825·89	862·72	+36·83
Charges ...	857·57	993·21	+135·64
Closing balance ...	220·87	90·38	—130·49

Receipts.

234. The larger variations in income are tabulated below :—

	Increase. Lakhs.	Decrease. Lakhs.
Interest	...	1·53
Forest	13·08	...
Land revenue	6·75	...
Excise	4·91	...
Income-tax	3·32	...
Registration	3·13	...
Transfers between Provincial and Imperial	2·16	...
Stamps	1·48	...

Variations of any moment occur under the same heads as in other years, the decline in interest receipts being due to outstandings being lower. The continued improvement in forest revenue is attributable to increased activity and improved sales of timber. Larger collections account for the increase under Land Revenue, while the Excise figure is due to general prosperity and the keen competition at auctions. Better assessment, combined with the increase in salaries and the large profits of business firms, explain the better return from Income-tax; and Stamp receipts improved

mainly on account of litigation. Under Registration, the increased income is entirely due to enhancement of the rates which had remained stationary for a considerable period. The transfer figure is accounted for by new assignments from Imperial which are in fact set off on the expenditure side of the account.

Expenditure.

235. With the considerable expenditure incurred by revision of salaries it was inevitable that the figures by heads should show very material variations. There were minor real decreases only under seven heads. The more important variations are noted below, in the case of increases only a few typical figures being given :—

	Increase. Lakhs.	Decrease. Lakhs.
Sanitation		8·79
Jails		3·97
Interest		2·37
Famine relief		1·87
Land revenue	36·32	...
Police	24·20	...
Courts of Law	21·16	...
Education	14·04	...
Civil Works	13·24	...
Irrigation	10·30	...
Forest	8·74	...

Of the decreases Famine Relief and Interest require no special remarks : the latter is due, as usual, to both lower outstandings and smaller advances made in the year. Grants for sanitation had to be restricted with the requirements for revision of pay ; while the lower jail expenditure is accounted for by a considerably smaller outlay on dietary charges, with a slight improvement in prices and a smaller jail population ; partly counterbalanced by additional expenditure under salaries and pay of establishments.

The increases are practically all due to new rates of pay. Under Land Revenue the figures also include charges connected with elections to the new Council ; under Education the figure again includes charges on the opening of a training college at Agra, larger contributions to local bodies for primary and secondary vernacular education, and more outlay on technical and industrial schools ; while the increase under Forest is in no small measure attributable to the expansion of the Wood-Working Institute and Sawmill and larger expenditure on supply of sleepers to the Nepal Darbar.

Provincial budget.

236. The general results of the year's transactions as compared with the original budget estimates were as follows :—

	Budget. Lakhs.	Accounts. Lakhs.	Difference. Lakhs.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Opening balance	211·89	220·87	+ 8·98
Receipts	848·86	862·72	+ 13·86
Charges	984·41	993·21	+ 8·80
Balance	76·34	90·38	+ 14·04

On the income side the improvement is the net result of various increases aggregating Rs. 32·77 lakhs set off by reductions totalling Rs. 18·91 lakhs : the reductions appear under only six heads, but practically the figure is made up of decreases under Forest (Rs. 15·20 lakhs) and under Land Revenue (Rs. 2·57 lakhs), the remaining four heads being responsible for the balance of Rs. 1·20 lakhs. The Forest figure is due mainly to the fact that the Utilisation circle was not in full working order, but partly also to overestimating and larger arrears account for the decrease against Land Revenue. The increase is shared between 16 heads, the more prominent figures occurring under Irrigation (Rs. 9·78 lakhs), partly due to enhanced rates and partly to a larger area brought under irrigation than was anticipated ; under transfers between Provincial and Imperial—a figure not susceptible of control, Rs. 9·54 lakhs ; under Income-tax (Rs. 4·93 lakhs) as a result of improved assessment by the special staff ; under Interest (Rs. 3·18 lakhs), the result of larger realizations of loans to agriculturists ; and under Jails

(Rs. 2·36 lakhs), due to the successful working of jail factories and larger receipts from the sale of quinine.

On the expenditure side of the account the considerable variations are the result of the revision of pay both of services and establishments. When the budget was framed the figures on this account could not be forecasted with any degree of precision: for establishments a lump provision of Rs. 50 lakhs was made under the Miscellaneous head. But early in the year with the completion of the proposals for revision it was evident that this figure would be considerably in defect; and to meet the excess some Rs. 80 lakhs had to be diverted from other objects for which specific provision had been made. For the purpose Rs. 66·30 lakhs were resumed from various heads as under:—

	Lakhs. Rs.
Educational buildings	16·40
Irrigation	3·20
Sanitary grants	20·00
Agricultural buildings	5·00
Public Works	19·20
Miscellaneous	2·50

The balance of Rs. 14 lakhs was met from miscellaneous savings of all kinds. As a result individual increases are due entirely to the revision: while individual decreases are due almost entirely to the re-appropriations necessary to make the revision possible.

46.—Local revenues.

(*For details see the report on Local Funds for the year* 1920-21 *and the annual report on the working of the district boards for the year ending the* 31*st March*, 1921.)

237. The opening balance of excluded local funds was Rs. 67·91 lakhs. Receipts amounted to Rs. 195·48 lakhs and expenditure to Rs. 177·86 lakhs as compared with Rs. 187·56 lakhs and Rs. 168·83 lakhs respectively in 1919-20, leaving a closing balance of Rs. 85·53 lakhs. Each class of fund was solvent. The finances of the district boards, which form by far the most important item, have been dealt with in Chapter III of this report. The difference shown above between the figures for the year under review and those for the previous year are mainly the resnlt of the variations in the district board funds. The other chief heads were the cantonment, town, dispensary and charitable funds. The cantonment fund opened with a balance of Rs. 2·86 lakhs, received Rs. 13·46 lakhs, and expended Rs. 13·40 lakhs. The corresponding figures for the town and bazar funds were Rs. 3·05, Rs. 6·43, and Rs. 6·45 lakhs. The dispensary fund started with a balance of Rs. 4,313, received Rs. 9,253, and expended Rs. 7,698. The number of towns uuder the operation of Act II of 1914 was 280 as compared with 279 last year.

47.—Municipal fund.

(*For details see the annual review of municipal administration for the year ending the* 31*st March*, 1921.)

238. The aggregate balance of the municipalities of the province at the close of the previous year was Rs. 30·06 lakhs. Receipts and expenditure during the year, including loans and deposits, amounted to Rs. 122·06 and Rs. 127·57 lakhs respectively and the actual closing balance was Rs. 24·09 lakhs. The income and expenditure of the 49 notified areas in the United Provinces, excluding the opening balance, amounted to Rs. 4·82 and Rs. 4·50 lakhs as compared with Rs. 4·89 and Rs. 4·74 lakhs respectively in the preceding year. Their closing balance rose from Rs. 1·35 to Rs. 2·26 lakhs.

CHAPTER VI.—VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICES.

48.—Details of census.

(See under "Details of the last census." Chapter I of the report for 1911.)

49.—Births and deaths.

(For details see the annual report of the Sanitary Commissioner for the year ending 31st December, 1920, and the tables under the head "Vital Statistics" Part V—Statistics of British India.)

Births.

239. There were altogether 1,664,192 births registered in 1920, against 1,516,497 in 1919. The birth-rate thus rose from 32·39 to 35·55. As usual, the rate was lowest in the first part of the year and improved each month from July to October. The proportion of male to female births was 110·10 to 100 or practically the same as in 1919. Half the number of districts returned a birth-rate above, and the other half below, the provincial average. The highest birth-rate, 42·94, was recorded in the Shahjahanpur district. Moradabad, Meerut, Farrukhabad, Bijnor, and Bulandshahr all had birth-rates of over 41. Naini Tal, Dehra Dun, Banda, Mainpuri, and Muttra returned the lowest rates, that of Naini Tal being 22·65. The municipal birth-rate was much the same as in the previous year, being 40·47 against 40·70 per mille. Out of the 84 municipalities, the birth-rate was higher in 41 and lower in 43 than the provincial average. Firozabad maintained its position at the top of the list, but its rate fell from 69·34 to 66·17. Ujhani, Kasganj, Ghaziabad, and Hapur come next in order. Mussoorie remained at the bottom of the list with the rate of 7·92. Other districts which returned a low rate were Lakhimpur, Mainpuri, Naini Tal, Brindaban. In Lakhimpur the low rate is ascribed to defective registration and in Brindaban to the residence of a number of widowed and retired people. The number of births recorded in 49 notified areas was 12,467, representing a birth-rate of 37·40 as against 12,544 and 37·63 for the same areas in 1919.

Deaths.

240. The total number of deaths registered during the year amounted to 1,742,835 as compared with 1,951,662 in 1919, the death-rate being 37·23 against 41·69. Twenty-three districts out of 48 returned a death-rate higher, and 25 lower, than the provincial average. Bareilly with a death-rate of 56·55 heads the list, followed by Bijnor with a death-rate of 56·43. Next come Saharanpur Moradabad, and Sitapur. The lowest mortality rates were recorded in the districts of Jaunpur, Gorakhpur, Muttra, Jhansi, and Gonda, the rates ranging from 25·10 in the first-named to 29·30 in the last-named district. There was a considerable fall in the excess of deaths over births. The total number of deaths recorded in municipalities was greater than the preceding year, the actual numbers for the two years being 125,673 in 1919 and 129,243 in 1920. The corresponding death-rates were 42·87 and 43·76 respectively. Out of 84 municipalities, 31 returned a death-rate above, and 53 below, the provincial average for the municipal areas. The highest death-rate was recorded in Nagina with 89·22. Tanda came next with a rate of 70·59, followed by Pilibhit, Brindaban, and Deoband. Fever was the principal cause of high mortality; dysentery and diarrhoea being an additional cause in Nagina, and in Tanda plague. The lowest death-rate was recorded in Lakhimpur (14·87) with Mussoorie, Mainpuri, Fatehpur, and Kairana next on the list. Forty-one municipalities returned death-rates in excess of birth-rates. In the 49 notified areas 11,751 deaths were recorded, giving a rate of 35·25. In 22 notified areas the death-rate was higher, and in 27 lower, than the provincial average for these areas. Ahraura heads the list with a rate of 73·90. The rate of mortality rose each month from January to June. It was lowest in August and then rose sharply in the month of October, when the highest mortality rate was recorded. The number of deaths among males was 913 899 and 828,936 among females as against 1,017,335 and 934,327 in 1919.

The rate of infantile mortality fell from 253·3 to 220·2. The largest number of deaths was due to fever, tetanus or convulsions being the next chief cause. It is quite clear however, that this figure is unreliable. Enquiries were made by the health officers of certain large municipalities who generally report that a smaller number of deaths were due to tetanus. Various measures were taken for the reduction of infantile mortality during the year, such as the distribution of pamphlets containing instruction to mothers and midwives, the employment of health visitors, the training of *dais* and employment of trained midwives, the delivering of lectures by maternity supervisors and resident midwives, the introduction of bye-laws for the regulation and control of milk-shops, the free distribution of quinine and the extension of provisions of the Food Adulteration Act. Eighty new *dais* were admitted for training in eight districts during the year. Forty-eight passed out successfully and 18 were discharged. The rate of infantile mortality was highest in Cawnpore with a rate of 303·67. Fatehpur, Bareilly, Sitapur come next. The infantile death-rates were lowest in Gorakhpur, Ballia, Almora, Muttra, and Gonda. Among municipalities, the worst record is reported from Jalesar, where the rate was 614·32. Cawnpore and Sikandra Rao come next on the list.

Registration of vital statistics.

241. The vaccination staff tested 348,041 fewer entries than in the preceding year. The percentage of omissions discovered was ·54 in birth entries and ·23 in death entries as compared with ·37 and ·22 respectively in the preceding year. Local authorities tested 447,553 as compared with 567,464 in 1919. The percentage of omissions discovered by them was much the same as in the previous year. The number of persons fined for neglect in complying with registration rules fell from 2,553 to 2,534.

Cholera.

242. The mortality from cholera was very low as compared with the preceding year, the number of deaths recorded from the disease in the two years being 6,952 and 81,365 respectively. A comparison of these figures with the verified returns tends to show that the former figure is probably under the real number of deaths. The highest mortality occurred in September. The district returning the highest death-rate was Kheri; followed by Bareilly and Bahraich. Jhansi was altogether free from the disease, while in Bulandshahr and Sultanpur each only one death, and in Muzaffarnagar two deaths occurred. The working of the "cholera scheme" in the twelve districts of Oudh, and in the Benares and Gorakhpur divisions continued to be carried on. The use of permanganate of potash instead of bleaching powder was resumed. As the cost of permanganate was very high, the Government increased its grant from Rs. 20,000 to Rs. 60,000.

Small-pox.

243. Small-pox contributed 6,354 deaths against 10,993 in 1919. The disease attained its maximum intensity in June. In seven districts the number of deaths did not exceed five. Out of 92 towns, 31 did not return a single death from small-pox and in 44 the number did not exceed 10. The highest death-rate occurred in the town of Azamgarh.

Plague.

244. There was a rise in the mortality from plague, 7,632 more persons falling victims to it than in the preceding year. The rates were respectively ·37 and ·53 as against the quinquennial average of 1·83. As last year, the highest point of the plague mortality curve was reached in March and the lowest point in July. The heaviest mortality occurred in Ballia, while among the districts returning the lowest rates the most conspicuous were Lucknow, Bara Banki, Gonda, and Bareilly. Twenty-three districts enjoyed full immunity from the disease. Out of 92 towns 75 entirely escaped from plague and in eight the number of deaths did not exceed 10. The number of persons inoculated was 36,453 against 43,307 in the preceding year. Of these, 26,689 were performed through the agency of travelling dispensaries, 8,627 by Special Health Officers, and 1,137 by the permanent medical staff of districts.

Fevers

245. During the year 1,442,376 deaths were registered from fever as against 1,575,632 in 1919. The mortality, though showing a decline as compared with the last year, exceeded that recorded in 34 years during the last 40 years. The largest number of deaths was recorded in June and the smallest in August. Among the districts Bareilly heads the list with a

death-rate of 51·03, followed by Bijnor, Moradabad, Saharanpur, and Sitapur. Districts where the mortality was low were Ballia, Jaunpur, Jhansi, Gorakhpur, and Lucknow. Among towns Nagina had the highest rate, 57·02, followed by Jalesar and Soron. Mortality was lowest at Gaura Barhaj, Lucknow, and Hapur. Pending the final settlement of the re-organization of the Sanitary department the Government of India sanctioned the temporary appointment of a Special Malaria Officer for the period of two years and the malarial section, which was closed in 1917, was re-opened in December, 1920. The work of the department for the remainder of the year was mainly confined to the Sarda Canal Project. Large amounts of quinine were distributed during the year but there was a considerable falling-off in the amount sold. Influenza for the most part consisted of cases of mild type with no high mortality as compared with previous years and was practically confined to the first half of the year.

Dysentery, diarrhœa, and respiratory diseases.

246. Deaths from dysentery and diarrhœa totalled 15,873 against 15,331 in 1919. The largest number of deaths occurred in August and the smallest in January. Garhwal as usual had the highest rate, followed by Almora, Dehra Dun, Benares, and Lucknow. The districts which suffered lightly were Bahraich, Kheri, Sultanpur, Jaunpur, and Mainpuri. Six out of 92 towns returned no deaths at all and in 13 the number did not exceed 10. Diseases of the respiratory organs claimed 33,198 victims as compared with 25,768 in the preceding year. The verified returns tend to show that pneumonia was extraordinarily prevalent.

Injuries.

247. The number of deaths from injuries fell from 25,406 to 23,143. The number of suicides, however, rose from 2,595 to 2,705; 757 occurring among males and 1,948 among females. Except in Lucknow and Agra, where the number of deaths from suicide was 13 and 11 respectively, it did not exceed five in any town. The number of deaths caused by snakes and wild beasts fell from 5,353 to 4,966, while deaths from rabies rose from 301 to 453.

Deaths from other causes.

248. Deaths from other causes fell from 199,927 to 190,067, but it should be noted that deaths from measles are now excluded from this head and are recorded separately.

50.—Emigration and Immigration.

(For details see the annual report on the working in the United Provinces of the Assam Labour and Emigration Act VI of 1901, *for the year ending the* 30*th June* 1921*; the annual report on emigration from the port of Calcutta to British and Foreign Colonies for* 1920*; and the tables under the head "Emigration," Part V—Statistics of British India.)*

Foreign emigration.

249. Owing to the prohibition of indentured emigration to the colonies, no labourers were despatched to any of the colonies during the year under report. Thirty-three Indian tailors were, however, despatched to Bangkok. Of these and of the 36 tailors who remained at Bangkok at the end of the previous year, 3 died, 26 returned to Calcutta, 2 before the expiry of contract on account of sickness, and 24 on the termination of their contract, and the remaining 40 were working there at the close of the year.

Six thousand five hundred and forty-four emigrants left the colonies of British Guiana, Trinidad, Surinam, Natal, and Fiji as against 1,204 leaving the colonies of British Guiana and Natal in 1919. The ascertained average savings brought by them amounted to Rs. 152 per emigrant as compared with Rs. 198 in the previous year. There was an increase in the average remittances per resident Indian immigrants in respect of Surinam and a decrease in respect of other colonies. The average as in the previous year was again highest in the case of the colony of Natal, but it is probable that the Natal figures include remittances by traders and other immigrants who are not labourers.

Inland emigration.

250. Recruitment of labourers in accordance with the provisions of Chapter IV of the Assam Labour and Emigration Act VI of 1901,

was carried on in 14 districts of the province as compared with 19 districts in the previous year. The total number of coolies recruited decreased from 4,431 to 1,089. This large decrease is attributed chiefly to the depression in the tea industry and the consequent strict economy exercised by all gardens in recruiting and also to the fact that, recruitment in the two previous years having been abnormal, fewer coolies were required during the year under report. The number of Nepalese subjects recruited from the Gorakhpur district fell from 1,590 to 377. As usual Gorakhpur, Basti, and Mirzapur supplied by far the greater number of the recruits. No case of infringement of the rules was observed.

251. No statistics are available. Immigration.

51.—Medical relief.

(For details see the annual report on the administration of civil hospitals for the year ending 31st December, 1920, and the tables under the head "Hospitals" Part V—Statistics of British India.)

252. The number of dispensaries increased during the year from 647 to 661. Sixteen new dispensaries were opened and returns for two other institutions which were previously in existence were now included for the first time. One Canal and three private dispensaries were closed. The number of patients at State public, local fund, and private-aided dispensaries and hospitals was 5,788,931 against 5,380,877 in 1919. The increase of 408,054 is almost entirely accounted for by the larger number of cases of malaria. Indoor attendance increased by 3,855 and outdoor by 404,199 as compared with 1919. The number of travelling dispensaries remained at 110; 63 being Provincial and 47 District Board. Attendance at these dispensaries increased from 930,748 to 988,673. Dispensaries.

253. The total income of the hospitals and dispensaries rose from Rs. 20,49,384 to Rs. 24,20,510 and expenditure rose from Rs. 18,55,309 to Rs. 22,47,726. The closing balance at the end of the year was Rs. 1,72,784. Local fund contributions rose from Rs. 9,49,072 to Rs. 11,05,316 and the municipal contributions from Rs. 1,22,231 to Rs. 1,54,484. Subscriptions from Europeans fell from Rs. 29,935 to Rs. 27,982 and those from Indians from Rs. 1,31,589 to Rs. 1,11,799. The cost of European medicine increased from Rs. 2,77,664 to Rs. 3,20,889 and that of bazar medicine from Rs. 35,284 to Rs. 37,937. Diet charges also increased from Rs. 1,36,057 to to Rs. 1,63,186. The invested capital at the close of the year was Rs. 16,95,531 against an opening balance of Rs. 16,97,579. Financial.

254. The number of students on the rolls of King George's Medical College at the close of the year was 155 against 140 in 1919. In the University Examination out of 37 students in the first M.B., B.S. 26 passed. In the final M.B., B.S., (Group A) 20 appeared and 12 passed, the remaining 8 being successful in the Supplementary examination; while in the Final M.B., B S., (Group B) 25 appeared and 18 passed, the remainder passing in the Supplementary examination. General.

The number of students on the rolls of the Agra Medical College was 532 against 549 in the previous year. The number of military students decreased from 347 to 313, while on the civil side the number of new admissions rose from 30 to 71. In the Women's Medical College school there were 65 students as compared with 60 in the previous year. One hundred and thirteen patients were admitted to King Edward VII Sanatorium at Bhowali. The military section there was closed at the end of November. Anti-tuberculosis work at the Lucknow Medical College has increased in activity. A special hospital for tuberculosis is required and plans and estimates are under consideration. At the close of the year, 102 officers belonging to the Medical department were still on military duty. Their absence has been severely felt, particularly as it necessitated the continued employment of medical assistants.

52.—Sanitation.

(For details see the annual report of the Sanitary Commissioner for the year ending the 31st December, 1920, the annual report of the Sanitary Engineer for the year ending 31st March, 1921, and the tables under the head, "Area, population, and public health" Part V— Statistics of British India.)

Municipalities.

255. The total amount spent on original sanitary contribution works was Rs. 9·40 lakhs, and Rs. 10·4 lakhs on maintenance and repairs of open water-works. Municipalities spent about one-third of their total income on water-supply, drainage, and conservancy. The main work of the drainage and sewerage scheme in Almora taken in hand in 1917-18, was finished during the year 1920. Apart from this progress was made during the year on minor drainage schemes but little was done towards the carrying out of the larger schemes which the more important municipalities have in view. In Allahabad the Kydganj drainage scheme has been completed. The Moradabad drainage scheme also has been completed with the exception of some underground sewers. The Cawnpore drainage scheme has been delayed by the failure of the contractors, and drainage schemes for Hardwar, Meerut, and Lucknow are still under consideration. The Naini Tal hydro-electric scheme made good progress, but other muuicipalities have done little to improve or reorganize their water-supply.

Fairs.

256. The Magh Mela at Allahabad was held from the 5th January to the 11th February and passed off without the appearance of any epidemic disease. The Dikhauti at Hardwar in April, the Dadri fair at Ballia, the Garhmuktesar fair in the Meerut district, the Tigri fair in the Moradabad, and the Batesar fair in the Agra districts which were all held in the month of November, passed off without the occurrence of any infectious disease with the exception of one case of small-pox at Hardwar. There were a few cases of cholera at the Sawan Jhula fair at Ajodhya and also at the Sawan Jhula fair at Gola. The rest of the fairs and small religious gatherings held in these provinces passed off without the occurrence of serious infectious cases of any sort.

Sanitary Board.

257. During the year the Board of Public Health sanctioned grants amounting to Rs. 5,70,508 in addition to the grants of Rs. 1,44,556 sanctioned by Government, the latter grant including the sum of one lakh annually granted for works of improvement in pilgrim centres. This grant was this year allotted to the Fyzabad municipality for the water-supply scheme for Ajodhya. Of the schemes considered by the Board during 1920, projects for various works of drainage, sewerage, etc., aggregating Rs. 77·34 lakhs were administratively approved. The total estimated cost of the drainage and paving schemes for which projects were submitted by the Sanitary Engineer during the year was Rs. 86·80 lakhs as compared with Rs. 17·77 lakhs in the preceding year.

General.

258. Labour troubles, shortage of railway wagons, and difficulty in obtaining coal, were adverse factors which caused delay in almost every branch of work. Several works had to be stopped for want of coal and materials which the railways could not deliver and at all the water-works pumping stations the stocks of coal became depleted. The fall in the exchange value of the rupee caused much work in revision of sanctioned estimates and the works at Naini Tal and Lucknow were considerably affected by the excesses thus caused.

53.—Vaccination.

(For details see the annual report on vaccination for the year ending the 31st March, 1921, and the tables under the head "Vaccination" Part V—Statistics of British India.)

Establishment and charges.

259. The number of assistant superintendents of vaccination remained the same as in the previous year, namely 49, but the number of vaccinators decreased from 923 to 920. There was an increase of Rs. 60,671 in the total expenditure, this being due mainly to the general increase in the

pay of Deputy Sanitary Commissioners, and the vaccination, clerical, and menial staffs.

Vaccination.

260. There was a decrease in the total number of operations performed from 1,425,754 to 1,356,981. Of this total, 1,257,130 were primary and 99,851 re-vaccinations as compared with 1,290,912 primary and 134,842 re-vaccinations in the previous year. The percentage of successful primary vaccinations and re-vaccinations was 97·14 and 71·34 as compared with 96·29 and 65·01 in the preceding year. The number of persons vaccinated per thousand was 27·18 as against 27·84 last year. Twenty-four districts out of 48 showed an increase in the number of successful primary operations, Cawnpore, Meerut, Unao, Hardoi, and Moradabad heading the list in the order named. Of the 24 districts showing a decline the most conspicuous were Fyzabad, Gorakhpur, Rae Bareli, Gonda, Fatehpur, Garhwal, Allahabad, Bareilly, and Aligarh. The agrarian disturbances and political agitation were the main causes of the decline in most districts. There was an increase of eight pies in the average cost of each successful case of vaccination as compared with last year, the actual amounts for the two years being three annas four pies and two annas eight pies respectively. The increase is due to increased expenditure in pay of the staff and the smaller number of operations performed.

Inspections.

261. The total number of vaccinations inspected by the Deputy Sanitary Commissioners and district superintendents of vaccination fell from 180,569 to 147,022. The percentage of inspections to the total number vaccinated was 11·42 in the case of primary and 4·52 in the case of re-vaccinations as against 13·60 and 5·18 in 1919-20. Various reasons account for the decrease, among which may be mentioned the fact that the full sanctioned number of Deputy Sanitary Commissioners was not available, these officers being engaged on more important duties. Indifference by some district superintendents of vaccination to this part of their duty, agrarian disturbances, and political agitation are other reasons for the decline. There was an increase of 27,538 in the number of inspections of primary vaccinations by assistant superintendents of vaccination and other inspecting officers, but a decrease of 10,605 in respect of re-vaccinations. The percentage of cases found successful was 95·81 in the case of primary vaccinations and 53·33 in that of re-vaccinations, as against 95·22 and 55·12 respectively in the preceding year.

Lymph.

262. The Provincial Bovine Lymph Dépôt at Patwa Dangar in the Naini Tal district issued 89,609 grammes of lymph as against 94,354 in the preceding year. The total sale-proceeds rose from Rs. 35,430 to Rs. 37,144 and expenditure from Rs. 31,547 to Rs. 39,217. The increased expenditure is accounted for by the general increase in the price of calves, grain, and other commodities as well as by the increase in the pay of the dépôt establishment.

CHAPTER VII.—INSTRUCTION.

54.—General system of education.

(See page 81 of the report for the year 1911-12.)

55.—Education.

(For details see the quinquennial report on public instruction for the period ending 31st March, 1921, and the tables under the head, "Education" Part VII—Statistics of British India.)

General.

263. The year was one of great educational activity. Early steps were taken to reform the higher education of the provinces on the lines recommended by the Sadler Commission. Intermediate colleges were built at Jhansi and Fyzabad and arrangements were made to enable Intermediate classes to be opened at Almora. These colleges are now working and are at present affiliated to the Allahabad University pending the creation of the Board of High School and Intermediate Education. Two important events of the

year which may be mentioned were the laying of the foundation stone of the Lucknow University by His Excellency the Governor and the establishment of the Muslim University at Aligarh.

Vernacular education made a considerable advance, but owing to economic and political causes not as much as was hoped for. Owing to the great increase in the cost of the necessaries of life, there was much discontent amongst the educational staff until the Government sanctioned a general revision of salaries. For a time non-co-operation agitators found their work amongst them comparatively easy for this reason but few of the teachers were in sympathy with the movement at heart and as soon as they were satisfied with their own position and prospects they brought their full influence to bear on the side of law and order. Students were encouraged to strike for any and every reason and, as often as not, it was only when the final step had been taken that they realized that the strike had assumed a political complexion. Matters were critical for some time at the Aligarh College and the Benares Hindu University also had trouble, while the conduct of the Sanskrit College examinations at Benares was interfered with considerably by systematic attempts to prevent candidates from appearing at the examinations. In most of the colleges, however, the students honestly endeavoured to decide for themselves on the merits of the movement and in the end the non-co-operators had to admit defeat.

Number of institutions and scholars.

264. The total of all classes of institutions increased during the year from 20,191 to 21,268. There was an increase in the number of public institutions from 16,489 to 18,158 and a fall in the number of private institutions from 3,702 to 3,110. The number of scholars attending the former rose from 931,569 to 981,744, while the number in the latter fell from 74,031 to 66,017.

Expenditure.

265. The total expenditure on education from all sources increased from Rs. 228·59 lakhs to Rs. 241·59 lakhs. Expenditure from provincial revenues rose from Rs. 75·84 lakhs to Rs. 104·7 lakhs, while that from local funds showed a decrease from Rs. 44·15 to Rs. 36·98 lakhs. The decrease is, however, chiefly due to a change in classification, according to which all expenditure incurred by district boards from provincial revenues is now shown under provincial revenues. Expenditure from municipal funds increased from Rs. 6·46 to Rs. 7·23 lakhs.

Universities.

266. During the year the report of the conference appointed by Government to consider the question of the re-construction of the Allahabad University together with the detailed recommendations of its sub-committees was laid before the Senate of the University. Nearly all the fundamental recommendations of the Conference were accepted by the Senate and their resolutions on the scheme were sent to Government. During the remaind er of the year no progress could be made pending the preparation of the Bill for the re-organizatian of the University. The scheme, though based upon the recommendations of the Calcutta University Commission, does not precisely follow either type of university proposed in the Commission's report for the province of Bengal. It contemplates the conversion of the Allahabad University into a teaching university at Allahabad with an external side for the control and supervision of the colleges outside Allahabad which may be associated with it. Under this arrangement the University would still prescribe courses and hold examinations for its scattered colleges ; but there would be at Allahabad centralization whereby the control and direction of the University work would be unified and extended over all the local activities of the University, and the teaching in all its branches be conducted by the University itself.

The Committee which had been formed for considering a scheme for the constitution of a University at Lucknow, submitted its resolutions during the year to the Senate of the Allahabad University and they were generally approved. A draft Bill for the establishment of the Lucknow University was introduced in the Legislative Council on the 12th of August, and, as amended by a select committee, was passed on the 8th of October, receiving the assent of the Governor and of the Governor-General in the following month. Plans and designs for the erection of imposing University

buildings have been prepared and a site for them has been selected. Private donations to the amount of Rs. 30 lakhs have already been promised for the University. Teaching is being carried on meanwhile in the Canning College and the King George's Medical College.

Fair progress continued to be made by the Benares Hindu University. There was an increase in the number of students at the Central College which necessitated an increase in the College staff. Progress with the Engineering College, however, has been considerably hampered by lack of funds and buildings. Many students had to be turned away owing to the insufficient hostel accommodation, paucity of class rooms, and inadequacy of staff.

As already noted, the year was an eventful one in the history of the Aligarh College, both on account of the political storm which it successfully weathered, and the raising of the institution to the standard of a university.

Of the 2,755 Matriculation candidates at Allahabad 847 passed as compared with 1,101 out of 3,307 last year. In the Intermediate examination 963 passed out of 2,243 as compared with 805 out of 1,981 in the previous year. The results of the other chief University examinations were as follows:—For the B.A. 459 passed out of 1,476; for the Previous LL.B., 285 out of 430; for the Final LL.B., 181 out of 353 and for the B.Sc., 101 out of 186. The large decrease which again occurred in the number of candidates for the Matriculation examination is due to the recognition of additional schools for the School-Leaving Certificate examination. The total income for the year ending 31st December, 1920 was Rs. 4,49,139, an increase of Rs. 82,371. The expenditure rose from Rs. 3,10,064 to Rs. 4,96,026 but this includes the sum of Rs. 1,29,100 expended on War Bonds.

Various modifications were made in the University regulations during the year. The work of the History department was very severely handicapped owing to the chair being vacant during the whole year.

Collegiate education.

267. The number of Arts Colleges remained stationary at 19, but the number of students decreased from 5,434 to 5,147. This falling off is no doubt partly due to the effects of non-co-operation, but economic causes were also at work. At the Canning College a very large number of students had to be struck off for non-payment of fees. This is attributed to the increased cost of living which has made it very difficult for the poorer students to continue their work in the college. Improvements in the staff are reported by many colleges. Several more professors and demonstrators have been appointed. Accommodation in many colleges has been improved. The post-war difficulty of obtaining apparatus has somewhat affected colleges but substantial additions have neverthless been made to the laboratories of many institutions.

The average number of students on the rolls of the Sanskrit College, Benares, was 322 as against 338 last year. Eighty-two passed out of 103 who sat for the various examinations. The number of schools teaching Sanskrit has again fallen from 400 to 324 and the number of scholars from 8,341 to 6,612. The number of schools teaching Arabic and Persian has remained stationary at 296, but the number of scholars has decreased from 8,902 to 8,788. These institutions have suffered most from the effects of non-co-operation. The chief centres of Arabic and Persian studies were attracted by the movement and their influence on other institutions especially those which received no grants-in-aid, was great.

There are as last year four Law schools including the University School of Law at Allahabad. The enrolment has decreased slightly from 586 to 529.

Expenditure on collegiate education has risen from Rs. 13·2 to Rs. 16·13 lakhs, of which fees covered 27 per cent. as compared with 34 per cent. last year. The cost per scholar has gone up from Rs. 244 to Rs. 309 per annum.

Secondary education.

268. The number of secondary schools of all kinds increased by 103 to 952, there being a rise of 94 in vernacular schools for boys and 12 in schools for Indian girls, while there was a decrease of 3 in European schools for boys. There was no change in the total number of Anglo-Vernacular schools, the

number of high schools increasing by 13 to 165, while there was a corresponding decrease in middle schools to 73. The number of scholars decreased by 2,537 to 50,823. The figures are, however, somewhat misleading, as there was a large falling-off in attendance owing to non-co-operation in the earlier months of the year and the majority who were absent have since returned. It is noteworthy that in the 60 schools managed by Government and local bodies the enrolment decreased by only half per cent., while in 178 private institutions the decrease amounted to 7 per cent. Expenditure on Anglo-Vernacular schools increased by Rs. 4·56 to Rs. 33·15 lakhs. The average cost of educating a boy in an Anglo-Vernacular school has risen to Rs. 62·4 per annum, while the amount he pays in fees has diminished to Rs. 22·7.

The number of boys who appeared for the Matriculation examination was 522 against 716 last year. Of these, 145, or 28 per cent. only, succeeded in passing. For the School-Leaving Certificate examination there were 5,272 candidates, of whom 2,475 passed. Four hundred and forty candidates appeared for the High School Scholarship examination as against 476 in 1920.

There were 3,462 teachers in Anglo-Vernacular schools, an increase of 31. The number of trained teachers has risen by 51 to 877. Over 58 per cent. of the teachers in Government schools are trained. In other schools the percentage is a little over 10. The need for more trained teachers is as pressing as ever, but the opening of the new college at Agra during the year and the establishment of other colleges at Fyzabad, Meerut, Bareilly, and Gorakhpur in the near future, together with the opening of similar institutions in connection with the Aligarh and Lucknow Universities, will do much to alleviate the pressure. There is still much room for improvement in the tuitional work.

Much progress was made with the school and hostel buildings of both Government and aided schools. The new buildings of the Intermediate colleges at Jhansi and Fyzabad and of the Government High School, Banda, are nearing completion, so too are the new premises of the Government High School, Naini Tal. Necessary extensions have been made to many schools and hostels and proposals for further improving accommodation, including the erection of three new high school buildings in Lucknow, are being prepared.

Large grants were made or promised by the Local Government during the year for vernacular secondary schools, Rs. 4 lakhs per annum being allotted for recurring expenditure and Rs. 25 lakhs for buildings. The scheme contemplates an increase of 470 teachers, 127 new school buildings, 183 new hostel buildings, the extension of 57 school buildings, and of 116 hostels. It took effect from the 1st of June, 1920 and before the end of the financial year the number of schools had increased from 460 to 554, the number of teachers from 2,409 to 2,654, and the number of scholars from 39,035 to 42,226. Of the 25 lakhs promised, however, for vernacular middle school buildings the boards were able to spend only Rs. 2·3 lakhs during the year owing to the lack of contractors and building materials.

Primary education.

269. The second instalment of the three years' programme for the expansion of primary education was carried through during the year. The number of schools increased from 13,597 to 15,094; the number of teachers from 27,029 to 28,915, and the number of scholars from 759,672 to 805,150. Altogether the programme of expansion for the first two years has produced an increase of 31 per cent. in the number of schools, 20 per cent. in the number of teachers, and 17 per cent. in the number of scholars. These figures though substantial fall below expectations, but there have been many adverse factors to deal with. There was a rapid rise in the cost of living and a consequently increased demand for child labour. The effect of economic conditions was felt particularly in the upper primary classes.

The expenditure on primary education increased during the year from Rs. 39·65 to Rs. 47·45 lakhs. Of the total, provincial revenues contributed 53 per cent. and local bodies 39 per cent. Large grants were made by the Government during the year to improve the pay of primary teachers. The revised scales have met with a satisfactory reception and it is believed that a supply of suitable recruits for the profession is now assured.

In district board schools there are 13,930 trained teachers as against 10,660 untrained. Municipal boards have only 683 trained teachers out of 1,489 and aided schools only 96 out of 2,645. The boards are making rather slow progress in utilizing the funds placed at their disposal for primary school buildings.

Further steps were taken by Government during the year to encourage the education of the depressed classes. The results from the appointment of supervisors in certain districts were so encouraging that during the year all district boards were offered assistance towards the appointment of a supervisor for schools for the depressed classes. The boards were invited to submit proposals also for increasing the number of aided schools for pupils of these classes and for establishing scholarships to enable boys belonging to them to carry their education beyond the primary stage. Funds have been provided by Government to carry the boards' proposals into effect. The amount thus found by Government will meet the cost of a supervisor in 43 districts, of 245 new aided schools and 128 scholarships.

Training and supply of teachers.

270. Progress is being made with the schemes for extending facilities for training Anglo-Vernacular school teachers. The Agra College for undergraduate teachers was opened during the year, and plans for establishing other colleges are maturing. The premises of the Lucknow College are to be handed over to the Lucknow University for the training of graduates, the present staff being transferred to new surroundings at Fyzabad. A new college is to be opened at Meerut shortly and later other colleges will be started at Gorakhpur and Bareilly. New normal schools are nearing completion at Jhansi and Muzaffarnagar and schemes for other normal schools are under preparation. When the new schools are completed there will be one normal school in each division of the province. There were 65 students at the Allahabad Training College including one woman. Sixty candidates passed the final examination. There were 50 admissions to the Lucknow Training College, making a total of 63 teachers in training. All the 39 college students who appeared for the Anglo-Vernacular Teachers' Certificate examination passed. Owing to lack of hostel accommodation at the Agra Training college only 21 students were admitted to the two-years' course. The college opened at the end of July, 1920.

The number of training classes maintained by district and municipal boards was 501 as against 504 in the previous year. The total number of candidates for the Primary Teachers' Certificate examination was 4,921, a rise of 431 on the previous year being due to an increase in the number of private candidates from 732 to 1,282. The percentage of passes was 54, which is rather low. Government made a grant of Rs. 92,544 during the year to the boards to enable them to give special allowances to the staff of training classes.

The need for an increased number of trained woman teachers is as pressing as ever, but it was not found possible to open any fresh training classes or normal schools during the year. The scheme for opening four new normal schools, however, is maturing. Sites have been selected at Allahabad and Meerut. Some difficulty was experienced in obtaining students for those institutions preparing for the Anglo-Vernacular Teachers' Certificate examination. This is ascribed to a variety of causes: a desire to read further, preference for other than a scholastic career and especially a leaning towards medical work, high prices, causing many who in other times might have undergone a course of training to begin teaching at once in order to earn a livelihood; and dread of a course which seems to involve ceaseless pressure combined with fear of failure in the final examination. It is noteworthy that the number of girls in collegiate classes has decreased from 24 to 15. Sixteen candidates appeared for the Anglo-Vernacular Teachers' Certificate examination, of whom 15 were successful. In the final examination in normal schools out of 51 candidates 33 obtained certificates as trained vernacular teachers as compared with 29 out of 49 last year. The number of Anglo-Indian girls adopting teaching as a profession is decreasing. This year only seven students appeared at the final examination as compared with 14 in 1918 and 11 in 1919.

Technical education.

271. The Technical Schools, both Government and subsidized, continued to do good work, and passed pupils have in most cases readily found employment in commercial firms or been able to start their own business. The Government propose to rebuild and expand the present Technical School at Lucknow into a school for mechanical and electrical engineers. During the year the Government considered also the question of expanding the Chemical Research Institute at Cawnpore into a Technological Institute, and in accordance with the advice of a committee of experts it is now proposed to build a Technological Institute where students will be taught the elements of engineering and the chemistry of their particular subject and at the same time will receive practical training on a factory scale in the subject which they are studying.

There was a small increase in the number of students on the roll of the School of Arts and Crafts, Lucknow, and a small decline in the enrolment of the Technical School, Lucknow. The average number of students under training in the day classes at the Gorakhpur Technical School rose from 80 to 94. The number at the newly-opened Technical School at Jhansi varied from 67 to 74. Forty-one students attended the Leather-working School at Cawnpore, and a similar school which was started in April at Meerut soon had its full complement of 25. One hundred and twelve students attended the Central Weaving Institute, Benares. Both here and at the Leather-working School at Cawnpore the complaint is made that the demand for trained workmen is so great that there is danger of their leaving before their period of training is finished. The School of Dyeing and Printing, Cawnpore, has been improved and the number of students rose from 19 to 33. The Government Fabric Printing School at Farrukhabad, which was only started in September, 1920, has still to make good. The Government Carpentry School at Allahabad, which has only been in existence for two years, is doing extremely well. An attendance of some 130 students shows that it is popular and that there is a genuine demand for technical education in this locality. It is hoped before long to give the school a building worthier of the good work that it is doing.

Female education.

272. The number of institutions for Indian girls fell from 1,674 to 1,635. This decrease, however, is wholly among private institutions, which number 89 less than the previous year, while public institutions increased by 50. The number of scholars rose by 1,288 to 59,254. The increase in those attending public institutions was 2,648. The number of secondary schools increased by 12 to 119 and the number of pupils reading in them by 1,540. There are now 41 English schools with an enrolment of 4,746 and 78 vernacular secondary schools with 7,841 girls. The number of primary schools for girls increased by 40. No less than 54 new schools were opened in the Shahjahanpur circle, but in the Lucknow circle 35 were closed. The number of scholars in primary schools is now 42,869, an increase of 1,245. It is in municipal areas that the greatest advance in female education is to be looked for. Some of the Inspectresses feel, however, that it is useless to inspect municipal schools as their suggestions are disregarded and little effort is made to bring the schools into any kind of order. There are 1,756 teachers in primary schools for girls, but only 173 of those are trained. This is however 16 more than last year.

273. Two schools for Europeans closed during the year: one at Naini Tal and one at Mussoorie. The number of scholars, however, appears to have slightly increased. Expenditure on European schools decreased by over Rs. 3½ lakhs. The figure for one school has, however, been omitted in this calculation. The number of teachers employed has dropped by 5 to 443. The numbers coming forward for training are diminishing and many stipends annually cannot be awarded for want of applicants.

There were 76 boys in the Colvin Taluqdars' School Lucknow, consisting of 49 Hindus, 20 Muhammadans and seven Sikhs. Recurring grants from Government for the maintenance of Islamia schools and *maktabs* increased from Rs. 1·21 to Rs. 1·80 lakhs. This resulted in an increase in the Islamia schools from 490 to 680 and in *maktabs* from 627 to 737. The number of pupils in Islamia schools increased from 14,550 to 19,448 and in aided *maktabs* from 21,439 to 23,640. On the other hand

the number of Muhammadan pupils in ordinary schools decreased by 2,960 and in unaided *maktabs* by 2,252. These decreases are due to the conversion of ordinary board schools into Islamia schools and of unaided *maktabs* nto aided *maktabs*. The number of Muhammadan boys in all kinds of primary schools shows an increase of 1,887. The demand for primary education among the Muhammadan community appears to be steadily rising. But the quality of the education imparted in Muslim institutions still leaves much to be desired.

The number of Hindus under instruction increased from 801,534 to to 836,875, or by 4 per cent. and that of Muhammadans from 187,602 to 192,325 or by 2½ per cent.

56.—Literature and the Press.

(See the tables under the head "Printing Presses and Publications." Part VII.—Statistics of British India.)

Literary publications.

274. The number of publications shows a large increase from 1,702 to 1,918. Hindi with a total of 952 is still the language in widest use but there has been a proportionately larger increase in the number of publications in Urdu, which has risen from 286 to 338; Sanskrit and Arabic publications have both increased but Persian has decreased. All subjects show an increase except Biography and History. Poetry leads the way with an increase of 72 and seems to be the most popular form of literature, but much of it is nothing more than rhyming propaganda.

The social literature of the year follows much the usual lines. Pamphlets continue to appear dealing with the claims of certain castes to be included in a caste higher than that assigned them but very little of the caste literature is important. Tht economic difficulties of the times are responsible for a number of publications advocating the limitation of expenditure at marriages and other ceremonial occasions. Reformers have been as busy as usual with tracts on temperance, gambling, smoking, and child-marriage. Direct social service is advocated in handbooks supporting the Boy Scout movement and explaining its principles and practice.

The output under politics has risen from 25 to 61. Most of the publications are propagandist. The Khilafat question leads with 11 publications and the Punjab disturbances form the subject of a fair number of publications. Bolshevism receives casual mention in some books and a useful tract has been published by the All-India Sanatan Dharma Sabha, Kashipur, condemning it as the counterforce to all religious and exhorting Indian youths to avoid its insidious tendencies.

Economic literature is not important. There are only five publications altogether. Publications on Philosophy have increased from 20 to 25. Works on Hindu Philosophy consist mainly of translations. In religions Hindusim has naturally far the largest number of publications to its credit. The Ramayana forms the theme of as many as 45 publications. Cow-protection is a popular subject countered by a defence of cow-sacrifice by certain Muhammadan writers. Christianity has the next largest output but nothing of any note. Islamic publications have fallen from 97 to 61, thus continuing the rapid decline of the last few years. Translations of well-known works form the bulk of the output in history but a certain amount of original work has also been done. Abdul Halim Sharar has published the fourth volume of his history of "Arz-i-Muqaddas," and Mirza Muhammad Kazim Barlas of Moradabad has added to his already large output a history of Changez Khan based on Islamic sources. Apart from local histories the only attempt at an original contribution to Indian History is an account of India from the dawn of history to the year 1000 of Vikrama era by Hari Mangal Misra, M.B., of the Normal school, Allahabad, which displays a considerable amount of labour and study, but would not be considered of much value by the scientific historian.

Of the 30 biographies eight are political and in the nature of nationalistic propaganda. Religious biographies have fallen from 18 to 9.

There has been a slight increase in the output of fiction from 153 to 161, of which 31 are translations. Original novels have increased but their quality has not improved. Social reformers seem to find it necessary to portray incidents of a most sensual kind to point their moral and possibly also to adorn their tale.

Of original poetry there is nothing of any particular note. The new poets cannot get away from the well-known themes of Rajput heroism. Such poems are probably nationalistic in intent and it is this tendency always to write with a purpose that is hampering literary development at the present time. Verse translations of poems in other languages and new editions of the works of well-knwon poets such as Rabindranath Tagore and Ghalib are fairly numerous.

Dramatic works do not call for any particular notice. Most of the new works have political purpose behind them and when this is not the case episodes from the *Ramayana* or the *Mahabharata* are the usual foundations for the plot.

Law publications are not of much importance. The "Art of Cross-examination" by Rahmat Ullah is well written and can be read with interest, but apart from this and a commentary on the Oudh Rent Act by Mr. Agarwala, publications are mostly cram books undisguised. The number of books on Medicine is 43. Scientific works are not of any great value. It is noticeable that the nine books on Agriculture all recommend the introduction of improved Western methods. Astrological literature is still popular. Other works are almost entirely educational.

The year's literature is not encouraging. No new writer of any distinction has appeared and for the best work we have to look to translations from other languages. Literary societies such as Nagri Pracharini Sabha are doing excellent work in their way, but they tend rather to be *laudatores temporis acti* and to devote their energies to the discovery of the manuscripts of previous generations instead of encouraging and fostering the wit and originality of the rising generation.

Indian Press.

275. The total number of newspapers and periodicals printed during the year was 427 compared with 398 in the previous year. Of these, 71 were in English, 175 in Hindi, and 151 in Urdu. Lucknow contributed 87 papers, Allahabad 62, Benares and Agra 36 each, Meerut 25, Cawnpore 24, Moradabad 20, Bijnor 18, and Aligarh 16. Eight English, five Urdu, and 18 Hindi papers had a circulation of more than 2,000 copies but in no case did the circulation exceed 10,000. Thirteen important new papers appeared during the year, while five ceased publication.

Tone and policy.

276. Six printing presses did not open and five were closed owing to demands for security under the Press Act. For the same reason eight proposals to start newspapers failed and two newspapers ceased publication. Seven newspapers and presses furnished security. There was only one case of forfeiture of security. Formal warnings were conveyed to four persons connected with newspapers and presses by District Magistrates, and eight were warned under the orders of the Local Government. The general tone of the Press remained much the same. The Punjab and Khilafat grievances continued to be the chief source of inspiration for both extremist and moderate papers, though in different degrees. Where Turkey was concerned the virulence of the Muslim papers showed little signs of abating. Early in the year they were alarmed by the threatened internationalisation of the Straits and Constantinople and veiled threats were held out of a Muslim-Bolshevik alliance and even of a general Muslim rising in the event of any interference with the Khilafat. After the Prime Minister's reply to the Khilafat deputation he was charged with faithlessness and it was insinuated that while the attitude of France was on the whole reasonable, the economic lust of England stood in the way of a just settlement. The massacred Armenians received little sympathy; they were represented as seditionists who had richly deserved their fate. Considerable solicitude, on the other hand, was displayed for the Muslim sufferers in Smyrna. With the Khilafat Conference in Calcutta at the end of February, the subsequent conferences at Meerut, Delhi, and Fyzabad, and the failure of the Khilafat

deputation, bitterness increased, and a general demand arose for the recall of Indian troops from Mesopotamia.

In the meantime Hindu susceptibilities had been worked upon by the report of the Congress sub-committee on the Punjab disturbances. The majority report of the Hunter Committee met with unqualified condemnation, which acquired additional intensity from the Parlimentary debates in England and the raising of the Dyer Fund.

From the time that Mr. Gandhi brought about the fusion of the Khilafat and Punjab agitations and took steps to initiate an active non-co-operation programme, it would be difficult to find an issue of any paper of importance, with the exception of the *Leader*, which would not furnish evidence of the exacerbation of Indian feeling over the Punjab tragedy.

On the subject of non-co-operation extremist Hindu opinion was for a time divided. Under the editorship of Mr. B. C. Pal the *Independent*, the leading extremist paper in Northern India, dealt very hesitatingly with the question, and the paper did not become a blind adherent of Mr. Gandhi until he had vacated the editorial chair. The movement drew considerable opposition and condemnation from the *Leader*, *Avadh Akhbar*, and *Mashriq*, and towards the end of the year the failure of attacks on Government colleges schools, and aided institutions had an appreciable effect on other papers, including the *Hamdam*, the advanced Urdu daily of Lucknow. It would, however, be unsafe to minimise the hold the movement possesses over the younger generation. The fervour of the non-co-operation campaign brought three new Hindi dailies into existence : the *Aj* of Benares, and the *Vartamam* and the *Daily Pratap* of Cawnpore.

Afghanistan received considerable attention owing to the Mussoorie Conference and the encouragement given by the Amir to the Hijrat movement. This movement, it may be noted here, was accorded considerable support at its inception, but its failure and the sufferings of its victims was but little remarked on. The sufferings of the Frontier Hindus in raids elicited much sympathy. The Government of India were advised to cultivate friendly relations with the Afghans in view of the Bolshevik danger. Throughout the year England was constantly advised to withdraw from Persia.

In the early part of the year there was a general tendency to accept the reforms and to agitate for more. The situation changed, however, with the publication of the Congress report on the events in the Punjab and with the development of the non-co-operation movement. The advanced papers supported the "boycott of Councils" campaign and hailed the result of the elections as a brilliant success for the non-co-operators. His Majesty's instructions to the Governors of the provinces were discussed on party lines, eliciting applause from the Moderates and from the Extremists the complaint that no time-limit had been given for the grant of *swarajya* and no guarantee had been provided against the repetition of the Punjab "atrocities." Towards the end of the year the *Independent* began to advocate, though somewhat academically, the demand for *swarajya* without the Empire.

The repeal of repressive Acts was called for occasionally, and though the *Leader* and a few Moderate vernacular papers acknowledged the forbearance of Government, no support was given to the authorities in the prosecution of the violent Khilafat agitators against whom proceedings were found to be necessary during the year. Government was repeatedly warned that repression would lead to nothing but strengthening of the non-co-operation movement. The disabilities of Indians in the Dominions and Crown Colonies were treated almost entirely as a racial matter ; and retaliatory measures were urged against the white colonists. Considerable attention was devoted towards the end of the year to the threatened wholesale return of emigrants from Fiji, and to the Government despatch on the subject of the treatment of Indians in East Africa, to which the Moderate papers accorded a fair reception.

The Esher Committee's report was generally condemned on the score of racial prejudice. Its critics asserted that it was designed to make the military supreme, to reserve high posts for Englishmen, and to keep India

in perpetual subjection. The Auxiliary Forces Act was condemned as anti-Indian.

The Extremist papers accorded a considerable measure of support to the workers in the numerous strikes which were a feature of the year, the *Independent* in particular being very fierce in its onslaught on capitalism.

57.—Literary Societies.

(*See page* 92 *of the report for the year* 1911-12.)

58.—Arts and Sciences.

(*For details see the annual report of the Lucknow Provincial Museum for the year ending* 31*st March*, 1921.)

277. Accessions to the Lucknow Provincial Museum were few in number. They totalled 19 under the head of Archaeology, 41 under the head of Numismatics, 12 under the head of Ethnography, and 60 books, reports, and periodicals for the Library. The most interesting object acquired for the Archaeological section was a brass image of the goddess Chamunda from Hardwar, of superior workmanship and fine finish which attest its early age. The Museum also received as a gift from the Madras Museum several duplicate specimens of prehistoric stone implements. Some 34 coins and seven medals were received for the Coin cabinet, chiefly as presents. There were very few finds during the year to be dealt with by the Coin Committee, and none of the coins found were of any particular interest.

A reduction in the number of visitors from 169,728 to 103,698 was due to the removal of the Museum as a temporary measure. This kept the institution closed to the public from the middle of October to the middle of January. Receipts increased from Rs. 339 to Rs. 367. Expenditure fell from Rs. 28,712 to Rs. 20,627.

Chapter VIII.—ARCHAEOLOGY.

59.—Archaeology.

(*For details see the annual report of the Superintendent, Muhammadan and British Monuments, Northern Circle, and of the Superintendent, Hindu and Buddhist Monuments, Northern Circle, for the year ending* 31*st March*, 1921.)

Conservation.

278. The amount spent on the conservation of Muhammadan and British monuments in the United Provinces was Rs. 1,22,932, of which Rs. 85,987 were spent on special and Rs. 36,945 on annual repairs. The principal works of special repair undertaken were at Agra and in the neighbourhood, where some Rs. 28,000 were spent towards restoring the missing cloisters on the south side of the Taj fore-court. Some Rs. 36,900 were also spent on the restoration of the ruined east causeway of Akbar's tomb at Sikandarah.

Expenditure on Hindu and Buddhist monuments amounted to Rs. 2,094. Special repairs were carried out to the temples at Mahoba in the Hamirpur district and to the temples at Brindaban of Muttra district and at Sarnath. At Sarnath the construction of the stone pavillion over the stump of the Asoka pillar which was taken in hand during the year 1919-20 was almost completed.

Exploration.

279. Little or no excavation work at Sarnath or elsewhere appears to have been done during the year.

CHAPTER IX.—MISCELLANEOUS.

60.—Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction.

(*See page* 94 *of the report for* 1911-12.)

61.—Ecclesiastical.

280. The year was uneventful.

62.—Stationery.

Stationery.

281. The total value of stationery supplied during the year was Rs. 7·67 lakhs against Rs. 8·72 lakhs in the previous year, and Rs. 6·75 lakhs in 1918-19. The value of the stationery issued to the Press was Rs. 5·52 lakhs against Rs. 6·94 lakhs in 1919-20. Other indenting offices show an excess of Rs. 37,534, out of which the Engineering establishments were responsible for over Rs. 20,000.

63.—General Miscellaneous.

Government Press.

282. The value of printing executed for the provinces was Rs. 13·97 lakhs. Deducting Rs. 3·31 lakhs for "Reforms" work the balance, Rs. 10·66 lakhs, represents the ordinary printing bill, an increase of Rs. 1·6 lakhs over the previous year which is accounted for mainly by the general increase of pay sanctioned with effect from January, 1920. The volume of ordinary work was about equal to that of the preceding year, with the addition of the publicity department, which was active for the last five months of the year, issuing over 1½ million leaflets and pamphlets in that period. The receipts of the Press fell from Rs. 3·11 to Rs. 3·09 lakhs; the decrease is due to a drop in subscriptions for the *United Provinces Journal*. The Journal commenced the year with a weekly circulation of 42,000. The free distribution list was practically halved in October, and entirely stopped in May, when the edition dropped to 11,550 subscribed copies. There was a marked increase in the number of publications received under the Copyright Act for registration, from 1,661 to 2,049. Of these, 1,412 were original works and the remaining 637 reprints. Benares with 648 publications maintains its position as the leading centre, followed by Allahabad with 384, Lucknow 340, Aligarh 107, Cawnpore 105, Meerut 70, and Agra 62. The price of Indian-made paper was about 10 per cent. lower than in the preceding year, and no difficulty was experienced in obtaining supplies. Since then however, the price has increased and the position is becoming acute. The increases of pay were generally appreciated and the employés of the Press worked for the most part satisfactorily and contentedly.

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